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# HISTORY

OF THE

## UPPER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

CONTAINING

*pt. 2*

THE GEOLOGY OF THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI  
AND SAINT LOUIS VALLEYS,

BY PROF. N. H. WINCHELL.

EXPLORERS AND PIONEERS OF MINNESOTA

BY REV. EDWARD D. NEILL.

Outlines of the History of Minnesota,

BY J. FLETCHER WILLIAMS,

AND

STATE EDUCATION.

BY CHARLES S. BRYANT.

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MINNEAPOLIS:  
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL COMPANY,  
1881.





## MAYWOOD.

Maywood lies in the eastern part of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 168 are under cultivation.

The surface is quite level and heavily timbered, mostly hardwood, with some pine in the northeast corner. The soil is a clay loam with a clay subsoil.

There are some excellent hay meadows in the northeast part, and also, quite a large acreage of cranberry marsh.

The east and west branches of the St. Francis river flow in a southerly direction through the town, and unite near the southwest corner. One of the tributaries of Rum river also crosses the northeast corner.

The first settlers in Maywood were J. W. Creath, and M. D. Campbell, who settled in the southern part in 1867. William Albright settled near them the following spring, and the same season, D. Shadham and F. Dannel settled in the northern part of the town.

This township was set off from Gilmanston in 1867; what is now Glendorado, detached from St. George, and the two townships organized as Maywood. It was reduced to its present limits, however, by the organization of Glendorado the following year.

The first officers were: Supervisors, M. D. Campbell, Chairman, J. W. Creath, and A. Hubbard; Clerk, M. D. Campbell; Assessor, A. Hubbard; and Treasurer, M. D. Campbell.

The first school was taught in the winter of 1868-69, by Miss Mary Campbell. The first religious service was held at the house of M. D. Campbell, soon after his arrival.

The first child born was Katie Wilt, in 1869.

The first death was William Clark, in 1872.

The first marriage was in 1870, the happy couple being E. Shadham and Miss Victoria Dannel.

In 1868, M. D. Campbell and a Mr. Close erected a saw mill on section thirty-one. It ran till the next March, when the boiler of the engine exploded, injuring several men, some seriously, and the engineer, fatally. He died ten days afterwards. A year later, Mr. Campbell built another mill near the old site, but this time on the St. Francis river, thus securing a water power. Some time afterwards, Ed. Allen became a partner, and

three years later, purchased Mr. Campbell's interest, and moved the mill to its present location in Glendorado township in 1876.

Maywood has increased in population, slowly, but steadily, from the beginning, the population, in 1880, numbering 126 persons.

The products of 1880, according to the agricultural report were: wheat, 334 bushels; oats, 915 bushels; corn, 362 bushels; barley, 50 bushels; rye, 25 bushels; potatoes, 880 bushels; beans, 20 bushels; cultivated hay, 13 tons; wild hay, 341 tons; tobacco, 131 pounds; wool, 52 pounds; butter, 2,905 pounds; and honey, 50 pounds.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN W. CREATH is the oldest living settler of Maywood township; he was born in Washington county, Maine, on the 28th of February, 1818. In the spring of 1857, he came to Minnesota, locating in Clearwater, Wright county, where he remained for ten years. He then came to his present farm in section thirty-four. Being the first man to come through, he was obliged to cut roads, ford streams, and put up with all kinds of inconveniences. Mr. Creath was one of the organizers of this town, and has been its Supervisor and Treasurer nearly every year. He was married in December, 1849, to Miss Margaret Miars; they have had three children; two, Isora and Charlotte E., are living, and Etta died in Clearwater, at the age of three months.

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## MINDEN.

### CHAPTER LXXXII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township lies in the southwest portion of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 1,597 are under cultivation. There is a tract of prairie in the south part, which extends over about one-third of the town; the balance is brush land and light timber. The soil is a dark loam, and quite productive. The eastern portion is watered by Elk river, which flows in a southerly direction, and is joined near the south line by Mayhew creek, which enters near the northwest corner of the town.

GEORGE MCINTYRE made the first claim here



about 1853, and was joined, the following year, by William Smith and George V. Mayhew. During that year and the next, the population was increased by the arrival of Ellis Kling, George Morehead, Garrett, Brennan, and William Hicks.

The territory embraced in this town was formerly a part of St. George, and when the latter town was organized, nearly all the township officers resided in what is now Minden.

Minden was organized in 1868, and the first officers were: Supervisors, William Smith, Chairman, Stanley Russell, and Ellis Kling; Clerk, and Justice of the Peace, William T. Hicks.

There is a Catholic Church organization in the town, and good schools are held during the usual terms. The population, according to the last census, was 207 persons.

The agricultural report of 1880 shows the products of this town to be: wheat, 14,657 bushels; oats, 8,674 bushels; corn, 3,970 bushels; barley, 319 bushels; rye, 560 bushels; buckwheat, 50 bushels; potatoes, 1,712 bushels; cultivated hay, 21 tons; wild hay, 668 tons; wool, 27 pounds; butter, 21,640 pounds; and honey, 400 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

DOMINICK BARTHELEMY, a native of France, was born in 1827. His parents died when he was young. He made his home on a farm for a few years, and then was employed in making wooden shoes. In 1854, he came to America, lived for a few months in Pennsylvania, and then came to Minnesota, where he was employed on a farm in Clear Lake, Sherburne county, for about three years. After living in Stearns county for a short time, he came to his present farm. Mr. Barthelemy married Mrs. Mary Ann Flanigan. They have seven children.

MICHAEL BRANNELLY, a resident of Benton county for twenty-five years, is a native of Galway county, Ireland, and was born on the 29th of September, 1821. He was brought up in his native county where he received his early education. In 1846, he came to America, and after remaining three years in New York State, went to California and was engaged in gold-mining until coming to Minnesota. In 1854, he purchased a farm, through his brother, in Minden, Benton county, to which he removed in April, 1857, and has resided there ever since. Mr. Brannelly taught the first school in Minden township and has always manifested a strong interest in the welfare of Benton county.

He was one of the early supervisors, holding the office for ten years, and was also County Commissioner, nine years. He was elected Sheriff in 1868, continuing in the office two years, and has also held a number of township offices. Mr. Brannelly was married in June, 1854, to Elizabeth Kelly, of his native county, who died in February, 1876. Of nine children born to them, but six are living; Mary A., Margaret J., Annie, Martin H., James E., and Elizabeth.

GARRETT BRENNAN, for twenty-six years a resident of Benton county, was born in Kilkenny county, Ireland, in the year 1812. He emigrated to Canada in 1826, and after staying two years, came to Rochester, New York, and learned the cooper's trade, which was his occupation until coming to Benton county. From Rochester he soon returned to Canada, where he lived six years, coming thence, to Will county, Illinois, where he resided until coming to his present home in Minden township in 1855. By energy and industry, he accumulated two thousand one hundred acres of land, which he divided among his sons, in 1880, retaining but three hundred and sixty acres for himself. Mr. Brennan was married in 1840, to Miss Mary Armstrong, of Tipperary county, Ireland, who died in 1869. Of nine children which they had, but five are living; Margaret, John G., William G., Catharine, and Simon.

CHARLES E. BELL dates his birth in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of August, 1843. At the age of eleven years, he went with his parents to Rock Island, Illinois, where he was reared to mercantile pursuits. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, of the Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in June, 1865. Returning to Rock Island, he was engaged in the grain business with his father for two years, then railroading until 1872, when he again returned to Rock Island and was engaged in various pursuits until coming to his present farm in Minden township in August, 1879. Mr. Bell was married to Sophia Bickel, of Scott county, Iowa, in 1871. They have one daughter, named Ida.

WILLIAM T. HICKS, one of the early settlers of Benton county, was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, on the 15th of August, 1828, where he was reared on his father's farm and received his early education. He came to Benton county in May, 1855, taking a claim which had been made by his brother the year previous, in St. George township,





now Minden. After a short stay on his farm, he went to Morrison county and worked as a carpenter until 1857, when he came to Sank Rapids, and the following spring, returned to his old farm, where he has since lived. He was the first Town Clerk in St. George township, and also, the first Justice of the Peace, holding the latter office continuously to the present time. Mr. Hicks was married in 1872, to Juliette Camp, of New York State. Miss Camp was the first to teach a district school in Sank Rapids.

ELLIS KLING, also one of the pioneers of Benton county, is a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, born on the 17th of September, 1824. He was engaged in farming pursuits in his native county until May, 1851, when he came to Minnesota. After remaining a short time in St. Paul, he located where St. Cloud now stands, and soon after, engaged with the American Fur Company, remaining in their employ two years. In the fall of 1855, he located the farm on which he now resides, in St. George, now Minden township. He was one of the first Supervisors of St. George township, assisted in the organization of Minden, and has been Town Treasurer, three years. His farm contains four hundred and fifty acres of fine land, one hundred and thirty of which is in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Kling was married in 1854, to Lucy Lewis, of Minnesota. Of seven children born to them, six are living; Henry C., William L., Albert F., Frank, George W., and Harriet A.

GEORGE MOREHEAD, another old settler in Benton county, was born in Manchester, England, on the 11th of August, 1829. He came to America with his mother in 1838, settling in New York City, where he was engaged in teaming until 1853, when he came to Minnesota, but after a few months spent in what is now Minden township, and at Little Falls, he returned to New York. In 1855, he again returned to Benton county, and pre-empted the farm on which he now lives; this farm is chiefly devoted to stock-raising.

GEORGE V. MAYHEW, for twenty-seven years a resident of Benton county, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 18th of February, 1824. He was reared to farming pursuits until 1847, when he enlisted in the Tenth United States Infantry, and served eighteen months in the Mexican war. Returning to his native State, he was engaged in the transportation business on the Hudson river until the summer of 1854, when

he came to Benton county and pre-empted a farm in St. George, now Minden township. This farm now contains three hundred acres, one hundred of which is under cultivation. Mr. Mayhew was one of the first Supervisors, continuing in office till 1862, when he was commissioned Second Lieutenant in Company I, of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until mustered out in May, 1865, with the rank of First Lieutenant. He then returned to his farm, and with the exception of one year's absence in Montana, has resided here ever since. Mr. Mayhew was also a member of the Minnesota State Legislature in 1861. He was married in 1858, to Melissa Smith, of New York State. Their children are, Susie E. and Nellie G.

W. H. H. STEVENS is a native of Albany, New York, born on the 15th of January, 1813. At an early age, he removed with his parents to Rensselaer county, where he grew to manhood, engaged with his father in the cattle trade and brick-making. When he was twenty-one years old, he removed to Troy and was in the same business until 1839, and after that, with the exception of eight years in the Troy & Boston Railroad office, was engaged in various pursuits until coming to Minnesota in the spring of 1857. He at once settled on his present farm in Minden township, and has resided here, a prominent and worthy citizen, ever since. He was Assessor of St. George township, two years. Mr. Stevens was married in October, 1835, to Elizabeth Davis, of Troy, New York. Of six children, the result of this union, but four are living; Mary J., Emma L., Frances H., and Harry D.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM SMITH, another old settler, dates his birth in Herkimer county, New York, on the 5th of October, 1817. When nine years old, he removed with his parents to Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where he remained three years, and thence to Montgomery county, New York, which was his home until 1837. He then commenced work on board the barges and steamers on the Hudson river, steadily advancing from one position to another, until he was made Captain, holding the position many years, plying between Albany and New York. He came to Benton county in October, 1854, and pre-empted the farm on which he now lives. He was elected County Commissioner in 1855, and served about seven years; was one of the first Supervisors of St. George township, and was Chairman thirteen years; has also held the offices of Assessor and Treasurer a





number of years. He was married in 1836, to Susan M. Flansburg, of Schoharie county, New York. They have three children; Alonzo, Melissa, and Ezra.

EZRA SMITH, a son of the subject of our last sketch, was born in Herkimer county, New York, on the 29th of September, 1843. He came, with his parents to Benton county in 1854, and has resided here ever since. He has carried on a farm of his own for the last thirteen years. Mr. Smith was married in January, 1868, to Mary A. Sheppard, of Cattaraugus county, New York.

## ST. GEORGE.

### CHAPTER LXXXIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — RELIGIOUS — SCHOOLS — MERCANTILE — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the southern part of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 2,217 are under cultivation.

In the southern part of the township, there is considerable prairie, which has a light sandy soil. The northwestern part is principally brush land and poplar groves, with a stronger and darker soil, and in the northeastern part, heavy timber prevails, and the soil is also good.

There are a few small lakes, the largest being Dunnewold's Lake, a beautiful sheet of water on section twenty-two. Stony creek flows in a southerly direction, and leaves the town near the southeast corner.

The first settlement was made on the prairie in the southwest portion of the town, and was called the New York settlement, because the greater portion of the settlers were from that State.

A Mr. Russell was, undoubtedly, the first man to locate here with his family, he having made a claim on section twenty-nine in 1855, but only remained two years. During the same year, Alonzo Smith, now of Minden, made some improvements on section thirty, George Sheldon settled on section twenty-nine, and George Dickey made a claim on section twenty-eight. These were unmarried, and did not remain long. In the fall of 1856, James H. Cullen selected a claim on section thirty, to which he removed his family

the following spring. They still reside on this farm, which was the home of Mr. Cullen until his death in 1871. In the spring of 1857, John Fothergill settled on section twenty-nine, and still lives there. In the southeastern part of the town, there is a prosperous German settlement. The first settler there was Peter Abfalter, a native of Germany, who settled on section twenty-four in 1862, and lives there still. He was followed by Godfrey Attermann and Vincent Schindler, who settled on section twenty-six. The former lives on the old homestead, but the latter is a resident of Minden township.

St. George was organized in 1858, and embraced all the territory now contained in the towns of Minden, St. George, and Glendorado, with nearly all the settlers in the first named township. Glendorado was detached in 1867, and Minden, in 1868, since when, the boundary lines have remained unchanged. The first election was held in April, 1859, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, G. V. Mayhew, Chairman, John L. Lock, and William Smith; Clerk, W. T. Hicks; Assessor, W. H. H. Stevens; Collector, William Dickinson; and Justices of the Peace, W. T. Hicks and P. Brannelly. The first officers elected, after the reduction of the town to its present limits, were: Supervisors, Anthony Carey, Chairman; J. Deirkes, and Frank Shero; Clerk, John Fothergill; Treasurer, Prosper Latterell; Assessor, Peter Abfalter; Constables, William Hezeke and Louis Latterell; and Justices of the Peace, John Dunn and Harvey S. Norton.

Religious services were held at the residence of Vincent Schindler, as early as 1863, by Father Pierz. This continued to be the place designated for devotional meetings for a number of years, until the erection of the present church in section thirty-four. Father Buch visited the congregation occasionally, but the priest now in charge is Father Wilkins. The present name of the church is "St. Lawrence Church."

The first school taught in the town, was by Mrs. Eleanor P. Shero, about 1866. There are now three school districts in which school is kept during the regular terms.

A general store was opened by C. A. Hunck, on section thirty-four, on the 1st of January, 1877, in which a prosperous business has been conducted. The firm of Reichert & Blattner, has also recently established a general store, not far from that of Mr. Hunck.



Through the efforts of Henry Voerding, Duelm Post-office was established at his residence, in 1870, with Mr. Voerding as Postmaster. In 1877, C. A. Himek received the appointment, and the office was removed to his store, where it still remains. The name was given by Mr. Voerding, and is derived from the city of Duermen, in Prussia.

The agricultural products of St. George, according to the report of 1880, were: wheat, 20,597 bushels; oats, 11,161 bushels; corn, 6,755 bushels; barley, 65 bushels; rye, 923 bushels; potatoes, 2,004 bushels; beans, 12 bushels; wild hay, 1,312 tons; wool, 158 pounds; butter, 14,750 pounds; and honey, 150 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

PETER ABFALTER, a pioneer of Benton county, is a native of Prussia, born on the 4th of May, 1829. In 1844, he came to America, and settled in Clinton county, Michigan, where he resided sixteen years, and then came to Minnesota, locating on a farm near Cold Spring City, Stearns county. In 1867, he removed to the farm, in Benton county, where he now lives. It was then in a wild state, but is now under good cultivation. He was married on the 1st of January, 1854, to Miss Mary King. They have ten children, six boys and four girls.

ROBERT BRENNAN was born in Carlton county, Canada West, on the 20th of March, 1845. When young, he learned the cooper's trade of his father, working at it until the year 1872, when he came to Minnesota. For a year he lived on a farm in Minden township, Benton county. Then moved to the farm on which he lives, and has devoted his whole time to its cultivation. On the 27th of April, 1869, he was married to Miss Johanna Madigan. They have five children.

PETER BLATNER, a native of Canada, was born on the 9th of May, 1852. In 1870, he came to Minnesota, locating with his parents in St. George township. In a few years he took a farm for himself, living on it till the spring of 1880, when he formed a partnership with Mr. Reichert. They started a general merchandise store, Mr. Blatner devoting his whole time to the business. He was married on the 4th of November, 1880, to Miss Mary Reichert.

JOSEPH BALDER was born in Peterwetz, Prussia, on the 17th of November, 1841. In 1870, his parents came to America, and the year following, to this town, where Mr. Balder took the farm on which he now lives. He married Miss Johanna

Barron on the 27th of January, 1875. They have had four children, three of whom are now living.

JOHN BRENNAN was born on the 20th of June, 1811, in Kilkenny county, Ireland. When a boy, he learned the cooper's trade of his father, and worked at it till the year 1826, when he came to Canada, where he lived for two years. He then went to Rochester, New York, staying but a few months, from there to Ohio, where he worked on a canal for four years. Returning to New York, he lived on a farm a few years, and then moved to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he remained until the year 1864. He then came to his present home, where he has since lived. In April, 1844, he was married to Miss Sceneth Hollister. They have had seventeen children, all but two are living.

PATRIAK S. CAREY was born on the ship "Rover," on the Atlantic Ocean, while his parents were coming from Ireland, to the United States, on the 16th of March, 1847. His parents went from New York to Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and then to Iowa, where they remained till 1866, and came to Minnesota. In 1867, Mr. Carey took a homestead in this town, but soon removed to Minneapolis, where he was engaged in teaming summers, and lumbering winters. In 1878, he purchased the farm where he now lives. He married Margaret Noland on the 13th of July, 1874. They have had three children, two are living, and one is dead.

J. H. CULLEN, (deceased) the first permanent settler in St. George township, was born in Ulster county, New York, in 1830. He made his home with his parents, but was employed driving team in New York until the year 1856, when he came to Minnesota. The following year he purchased the farm where he lived until his death, April 23, 1871. Mr. Cullen was a man greatly respected by all who knew him. Since his death, his brother-in-law, Thomas Bennahan, also an old settler, has assisted in carrying on the farm. On the 6th of October, 1852, Mr. Cullen was married to Miss Bridget Bennahan. They had nine children, seven are still living.

JOHN DUNNEWOLD was born in the village of Winterswyk, Holland, on the 13th of November, 1826. He received a good education, and learned the tanner's trade. After working at his trade for four years, he started a tannery of his own, which he operated until 1869, when he moved with his family to America. Coming directly to St. George township, he purchased a farm on the shore of the





lake which now bears his name. Since 1874, he has held the office of Treasurer. He married Miss Johanna C. Willems on the 8th of February, 1861. They have five children.

MARTIN HERBST, a native of Baden, Germany, was born on the 1st of November, 1844. At the age of nine years, he came with his uncle to America. Was engaged in farming in the state of Indiana, until the year 1865, when he came to St. Cloud. Here he was employed by the Freight Company, in drawing supplies for the frontier forts, until 1871, when he came to Glendorado township, Benton county, and took a claim. The year following, he purchased the farm on which he now lives. Since 1875, he has been Town Clerk. Was married on the 28th of December, 1871, to Miss Caroline Balder. They have four children; Joseph C., Charles J., Albert F., and Adolphus R.

C. A. HUNCK was born in Germany, on the 30th of September, 1846. In 1874, he came to America, locating in Washington county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in various pursuits. In the spring of 1876, he came to St. Cloud, and in the fall, started a general merchandise store in St. George township, since which time he has been doing a good business. Since 1877, he has been Postmaster. Mr. Hunck was married to Miss Dinah Schulte, of Washington county, Wisconsin, in 1877. They have two children.

P. J. JACQUEMART, a native of Belgium, was born on the 25th of August, 1835. He resided with his parents until twenty-six years of age; then taking a farm of his own, where he remained until 1869. Coming to America, he located on a timber farm in this township. In 1878, he purchased the farm on which he now lives, having made valuable improvements each year. Mr. Jacquemart married Miss C. Herman on the 12th of March, 1861. They have had seven children, four of whom are living.

JOSEPH KAMPA was born in Prussia, on the 18th of March, 1850. Residing there until the year 1870, the family came to America, and Mr. Kampa purchased the farm where he now lives. He was married on the 15th of November, 1870, to Miss T. Balder. They have six children.

JAMES A. LEWIS, one of the few Americans residing in this town, was born in Wyoming county, New York, on the 16th of March, 1843. When about fourteen years of age, the family came to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where James resided

until 1862. He then enlisted in Company D, of the Twentieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served for three and a half years. Returning to his former home on the farm, he remained until 1878, when he came to his present farm. On the 26th of March, 1877, Mr. Lewis married Miss Elizabeth Rundle, of England. They have been blessed with three daughters; Edith M., Cora Ann, (deceased) and Jessie Mable.

NATHAN A. LEASE was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1818. At the age of ten years, he removed to Ohio, and six years later, to Michigan. In 1834, he went to Indiana, where he married Miss Mary Christian, of Tennessee. They had five children; Melvina, John N., William F., Nathan A., Jr. and Margaret A. In July, 1854, his wife died, and the following November the family came to Hastings, Minnesota, where they spent the winter. In 1856, Mr. Lease married Miss Rachel Lightner, who bore him five children; Oliver, Eugene, and Ulysses are living, and two are dead. In March, 1865, Mr. Lease enlisted in the First United States Engineers, and served as artificer, till the following October. In 1866, he was married to Mrs. Sarah A. Huxton. They have had three children, and two are living. Mr. Lease came to St. George township, in 1880, where he has been engaged at the carpenter trade.

LOUIS LATTERELL, a native of Canada, was born on the 17th of August, 1832. When he was seven years of age, the family removed to Port Douglas, New York. In the year 1852, he went to Wisconsin, but soon returned to New York, where he was engaged in farming and lumbering, until 1856, when he came to Benton county, Minnesota, and took the farm on which he now lives. When Mr. Latterell came, the farm was new and wild, but by good management, there has been a great improvement. Miss P. Nolett became his wife on the 23d of September, 1860. They have ten children living, and one is deceased.

JOHN MARSHALL was born in Belgium, on the 1st of November, 1835. When about nineteen years of age, he came to America. For three years he lived in Macoupin county, Illinois, working in a saw mill. In 1862, he came to St. Paul, and lived for seven years, being on the police force for one year. Then coming to St. Cloud, he acted as policeman for a short time, afterwards, was in the ice business, and later, opened a grocery store, which he carried on until the year 1874, when he purchased the farm on which he has since lived.





Mr. Marshall was married to Miss Josephine Treufler, in 1854. They have had nine children, eight of whom are living.

HARVEY S. NORTON was born in Onondaga county, New York, on the 15th of July, 1828. When young, he came with his parents to Geauga county, Ohio. In 1848, visited New York, where he remained but two years, and again went to Ohio, and remained until 1852, when he came to Minnesota. Until 1859, he was employed on a farm in Hennepin county, then going to Illinois in 1861, he enlisted in Company K, of the Second Illinois Cavalry, serving, however, but a short time. He then returned to Minnesota, and again enlisted, serving till the close of the war. In 1865, Mr. Norton came to St. George township, took a claim, and in 1872, located on his present farm. On the 15th of June, 1858, he married Miss Sallie A. Finical. They have had five children; Edwin I., Laura M., Bertha F., Martha A., (deceased) and William E.

JOSEPH PARENT, JR., a native of Belgium, was born on the 25th of August, 1846. He assisted his father in a store and on the farm, until twenty-three years of age. The family then came to America, and after living for one year in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, they came to this township. Mr. Parent resided with his parents until 1875, when he purchased the farm on which he has since lived. On the 15th of July, 1871, Mr. Parent married Miss Fanny Henry. They have had four children, all of whom are living.

E. H. RENARD was born in France, on the 17th of May, 1835. When young, he learned the hosiery trade, at which he worked until 1851, when he came to America. Mr. Renard resided on a farm in La Salle county, Illinois, for twelve years before coming to this county. He then purchased the farm where he still lives. On the 11th of November, 1863, he was married to Miss Josephine Simoneau. They have two children.

FRANK E. SHERO was born in Canada East, on the 23d of July, 1833. When he was an infant, the family moved to Essex county, New York, where Frank assisted his father on the farm. In 1865, he came to Minnesota, and the following year, purchased the farm where he has since made his home. Mr. Shero married Miss Eleanor P. Tatro, on the 8th of February, 1855. They have had five children, four of them still living.

C. F. VANMAANEN was born in Amsterdam, in 1811. He came to America in 1868, coming di-

rectly to St. Cloud, Minnesota; but soon after purchased a farm in St. George township, where he remained for four years. Then, returning to St. Cloud, he was employed as clerk in the Drug business. In 1874, he engaged in the same business on his own account. The year following, Mr. VanMaanen returned to his farm in this town, having since made it his home. In the year 1868, he was married to Miss Harriet A. Martin.

HENRY VOERDING, a native of Prussia, was born on the 7th of November, 1818. He enlisted in the Prussian army in 1840, serving for three years. Then resided on a farm until 1852, when he came to America. After living in several counties of Wisconsin, Mr. Voerding came to what is now known as St. Augusta, Stearns county, where he was one of the pioneers of the town. In 1869, he came to his present farm, and the year following, was appointed Post-master, at Duelm, and held the position until 1877. Mr. Voerding was married to Miss Mary Ann Janning, on the 13th of May, 1843. They have had nine children, only four of whom are now living.

JOHN WILSON was born in Canada West, on the 2d of February, 1846. His father died when John was fourteen years of age, after which he and his brother took charge of the farm until 1865, when they came to Wisconsin. Here Mr. Wilson was employed in the lumber business, on the river, and later, in a chair factory. In 1870, he came to Minnesota, and purchased the farm where he has since lived. Was married on the 31st of August, 1870, to Miss Mary E. Lewis. They have four children.

## WATAB.

### CHAPTER LXXXIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — INDIAN TRADING POSTS — WATAB VILLAGE — ORGANIZATION — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Watab is situated on the Mississippi river, between Sauk Rapids and Langola. It has an area of about 28,800 acres, 360 being under cultivation. Mayhew creek flows southerly through the eastern part of the township, and the western portion is watered by the Little Rock river. The soil varies from a sandy loam near the river, to a clay loam in the eastern part; the former being mostly



prairie, and the latter, covered with brush and light timber.

The first white man to take up a residence in this town was, undoubtedly, Asa White, who opened a trading post here about 1848. In the spring of 1849, David Gilman opened a trading post two miles above Sauk Rapids, but in the fall of the same year, he bought Mr. White's interest at Watab, whither he removed, and is still a resident of the town. Mr. Gilman immediately built a hotel and opened a farm, which was, probably, the first farm opened in Benton county. Mr. White then erected a building in which he opened a general store in 1850. Nathan Myrick, now of St. Paul, also opened a store and bakery soon after. This trade was almost exclusively with the Indians.

About this time Dr. Charles W. Borup opened a transportation business from St. Paul, via Watab, to Fort Gaines and the Indian country, and by that means, regular mail communication was established. In 1851, General Lowry also started a trading post and bakery. Others soon followed, and in 1853, this was the most important business point northwest of St. Paul. The Post-office was established during the latter year and P. Lamb appointed Postmaster. He was succeeded about one year later, by David Gilman, who is the present incumbent.

Watab village was surveyed and platted in 1854. The place then contained about 150 inhabitants. There were a number of stores, three bakeries, Post-office, etc. In 1856, Place, Hanson, and Clark built a steam saw-mill which was run for a time, but removed about 1863. A wooden bridge was built across the Mississippi river in 1856, but it blew down soon after, and was never rebuilt.

The North Star Lodge, Masonic, was established here in 1857, but subsequently removed to St. Cloud.

As before stated, this was the county seat of Benton county for a time, but since its removal to Sauk Rapids the importance of Watab village has gradually diminished.

As early as 1853, there were three farms opened in the town. The proprietors were, David Gilman, Benjamin Bright, and George Goodhue. Aside from these, there was very little agricultural improvement until 1870, since when the population has been steadily increasing, numbering, in 1880, 131 persons.

The township was organized in 1858, and embraced, in addition to its own territory, all of the present town of Gilmanston. It was reduced to its present limits in 1873. The first records of the town have been lost, and but a partial list of the first officers can be given. Supervisors, David Gilman, Chairman, George Goodhue, and Thomas Hardan; and Clerk, R. Carlisle Burdick.

In the year 1880, the products of the town were: wheat, 4,650 bushels; oats, 1,625 bushels; corn, 400 bushels; potatoes, 480 bushels; wild hay, 355 tons; wool 48 pounds; and butter, 6,850 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

DAVID CAMPBELL is one of Minnesota's early settlers, having come to Stearns county in 1856, and the following spring, to Watab, where he has resided ever since. He was born in what is now the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 27th of April, 1831. His early days were spent in farming in his native country, until 1855, when he removed to Ohio, and thence, to Illinois, where he remained until his final removal to Minnesota. Since coming to Watab, he was engaged in logging and lumbering on the river for ten years, and afterwards kept a hotel for some time, but is now exclusively engaged on his farm, which is principally devoted to stock-raising. Mr. Campbell was married in 1864, to Mrs. Mary Murphy, of Pennsylvania. Pearl is their only child.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL is also a native of Ontario, and was born on the 17th of October, 1832. His early life in his native country, was spent in lumbering and hotel business until 1866, when he came to Watab, Minnesota, and has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising. Mr. Campbell has held the office of Town Clerk for six years. He was united in marriage, in 1864, with Mary Lake, who is also a native of Canada.

HON. DAVID GILMAN, for thirty-three years a resident of Minnesota, thirty-two of which have been spent in Watab, was born in Saratoga county, New York, on the 29th of April, 1812. When the subject of our sketch was but six months old, the family removed to Orange county, Vermont, where he grew to manhood. In 1836, he went to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he dealt in horses, and kept a livery stable. He was the first City Marshal there, holding the office for six years, and was also one of the organizers of the first fire company. In 1848, he entered the employ of the





American Fur Company, and came to Minnesota, locating his family at Mendota. In 1849, he removed to Watab, and has resided here ever since. In the same year, he was appointed by Gov. Ramsey, Sheriff of Benton county, and soon after, elected to the same office, which he held for four years. He has been County Commissioner a number of terms, and Chairman of the Board several years. He represented his district in the Territorial Legislature in 1850, and was also a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1857, where

he was noted for his strong advocacy of a proper recognition of the school interests of Minnesota. He was appointed Post-master at Watab, in 1853, and now holds the office, although others have filled the position a portion of the time during those years. The house in which Mr. Gilman resides, was the old Watab Indian trading post. He was married in September, 1844, to Nancy W. Lamb, of Woodstock, Vermont. They have had five children, four of whom are living; Ellen R., Sarah B., John D. L., and Frances E.

## STEARNS COUNTY.

### CHAPTER LXXXV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—FIRST SETTLERS—ORGANIZATION—LAND OFFICE—FIRST COURT—GRASSHOPPERS—FORTS.

Stearns county was organized in the winter of 1854-55, and derives its name from the Hon. C. T. Stearns, now of New Orleans, Louisiana, but then a member of the Territorial Council from St. Anthony Falls, and who had made himself prominent in the passage of the bill providing for its organization.

The bill, as originally introduced, bore the name of Stevens county, in honor of Governor Stevens, then prominently connected with the survey of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and passed both branches of the Legislature in that shape, but in the enrollment of the bill, the change occurred from Stevens to Stearns, and when discovered, it was concluded best to let the matter stand, as the name was still in the line of honorable mention, and Mr. Stearns well entitled to public recognition in this way.

The geographical position of the county is a little south of the center of the State, on the west side of the Mississippi river, and about seventy miles northwest of St. Paul.

It is bounded on the north by Morrison and Todd counties, on the east, by the Mississippi

river, which separates it from Benton and Sherburne counties, on the south by Wright, Meeker, and Kandiyohi counties, and on the west by Douglas and Pope counties. It contains an area of 1,536 square miles, or 983,040 acres, of which, in 1880, about 104,934 were under cultivation.

The surface is beautifully diversified with groves of timber, lakes, streams, meadows, and gently rolling prairie.

The county is abundantly supplied with timber, the principal varieties being oak, maple, ash, elm, basswood, and tamarack. There are about one hundred and twenty of the larger lakes, the most important being Sauk, Birch Bark, Grand, Koronis, Rice, and Pearl lakes, which are beautiful sheets of water.

The principal rivers are the Sauk, which meanders through the central part, and the North Fork of Crow river, which passes through the southwest portion of the county. The Mississippi passes along the entire eastern boundary, and furnishes unsurpassed facilities for obtaining pine lumber from the northern part of the State, and the Clearwater river forms the southeastern boundary for a distance of nearly twenty miles, furnishing a good water-power at Clearwater.

There are also a number of good water-powers in other portions of the county, which are fully described in the local chapters which follow this. A full description of the soil and physical features



of each township are also given in the following chapters.

The first white man to reside for any length of time in Stearns county, was Gen. S. B. Lowry, who established an Indian trading post, called Wimmelago, in the present town of Brockway, about 1849. An Indian blacksmith, named Foster, also lived at the post.

A man, named Landerdale, established a trading post about the same time at the mouth of Sauk river. He only remained a short time, however, and moved to Minneapolis, where he now resides.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The act of the Legislature providing for the organization of Stearns county, was approved on the 4th of March, 1855, and the counties of Todd, Davis and Cass, annexed for judicial purposes.

On the 9th of April following, the first Board of County Commissioners met at St. Cloud. The members of the board were, John L. Wilson, David T. Wood, and John Ferschweiler. Charles Ketchum was clerk of the board, and also Register of Deeds. The other county officers were: Judge of Probate, N. N. Smith; Sheriff, L. B. Hammond; Treasurer and Surveyor, Robert B. Blake; and Assessor, Harvey Wiltzheimer.

The United States Land Office was established at Sank Rapids, Benton county, in August, 1853, with George W. Sweet as Register, and William H. Wood, Receiver. On the 1st of June, 1857, Mr. Sweet was succeeded by W. A. Carruthers, and in May following the office was removed to St. Cloud, where it still remains. In May, 1861, T. C. McClure became Register, and he was succeeded by Henry C. Waite, in May, 1865. The office has since been occupied by H. L. Gordon, J. V. Brower, and the present incumbent, D. H. Freeman, who assumed the duties on the 14th of April, 1879. Mr. Wood's successors in the Receiver's office have been, S. B. Hays, C. A. Gilman, W. B. Mitchell, H. C. Burbank, Ole Peterson, and the present officer, W. B. Mitchell, who is serving his second term.

The first United States District Court was held on the fourth Monday in June, 1855, by Judge Moses Sherburne, in a building erected by Joseph Edelbrock.

The first court under the State organization was held by Judge E. O. Hamlin.

In 1863, the Court House was built. It is a sub-

stantial brick building, erected at a cost of 20,000.00. Expensive additions have since been made, including the county jail, which was built in 1869, at a cost of \$10,000.00.

**GRASSHOPPERS**—In the fall of 1856, grasshoppers came in a cloud and settled down on this and adjoining counties, destroying the greater portion of the crops. They deposited their larvae and died. Early in the spring of 1857, the young brood came out, and made such havoc that serious fears of famine were entertained by a large portion of the people. They left, however, in July, and many of the late crops survived, so that, with the full crops of certain localities where they did not appear, there was a large amount of food. But in autumn, it became a question whether, with what the people had the means of purchasing from below, there was enough for winter consumption. The German settlers were generally of the opinion that the supply would be inadequate, and commissioners were sent to Dubuque to solicit contributions. This, however, seemed unnecessary, as there was no suffering, and the following market quotations on the 20th of May following, would rather indicate an abundance than a scarcity: potatoes, 25 cents per bushel; corn, \$1.00 per bushel; wheat, \$1.25 per bushel; and oats, 80 cents per bushel. But, many settlers were deterred from coming that spring, on account of the previous famine reports.

During the Indian war of 1862, a Quartermaster's department was established at St. Cloud, a fort erected at Upper Town, and another at Lower Town, and this became a general distributing point for northwestern Minnesota.

Stearns county is mostly settled by Germans, the first representatives of this nationality coming here by the advice of Father Pierz, who wrote glowing descriptions of the beauties and advantages of this section, and especially of the Sank Valley, to his eastern friends. The Benedictine Fathers were among the "advance guard," and to their efforts are due, to a very great extent, the present prosperous condition of the county and the thrift and energy of its German-American citizens. In view of the above facts, it is not deemed out of place to here present a brief chapter, kindly furnished by the President of St. John's College, and devoted to a review of the labors of the Benedictines during their first twenty-five years in northern Minnesota.





## CHAPTER LXXXVI.

## THE BENEDICTINES.

The monks of the Order of St. Benedict did pioneer work in the territory and state of Minnesota which entitles them to a place in the history of L'etoile du Nord. Of this Order a contemporary writes;\* "The Benedictines owe their origin to St. Benedict, who was born at Nursia, in Italy, in the year 480. He was sent to Rome when very young, and there received the first part of his education. At the age of fourteen, he retired to the neighboring mountains, with his sister, St. Scholastica, and her nurse, and shortly after, secluded himself in a cavern at Subjaco, about fourteen miles from Rome, his place of retirement being known for a long time only to his friend, St. Romanus, the hermit, who supplied him daily with food, let down the face of the rock by a rope. When the Lord had prepared him sufficiently by self-knowledge, temptation, prayer, and abundant grace for his public ministry, he gathered around him a number of disciples, and in a short time built twelve monasteries, of which two still exist, and have ever been inhabited by his spiritual children. About the year 528, he withdrew to Monto Cassino, where idolatry was still practiced in a temple of Apollo. Having converted the pagans to the Catholic faith, he broke the statue of the false God, overthrew his altar, and raised two oratories on the mountain. Here he also founded a monastery, which became the most famous in the world, and perfected the rule of that celebrated Order which has existed longer, and more splendidly flourished than any other, and has given more writers, Popes, and Saints of every kind to the Church than all other orders together, and has done more to reclaim Europe from barbarism, and to advance and perfect Christian civilization than has ever been acknowledged, and perhaps, than can possibly be imagined."

Having briefly noted the origin and work of the Order in the Eastern Hemisphere, a few lines about its establishment on this continent are in place.

When Columbus, in 1493, made his second voyage to the newly discovered world, he was accompanied by thirteen members of the Benedictine Order, with Rev. Dom. Boil as their leader; these

landed on Montserrat, one of the West India islands, to commence in the New World the great work which the order had so successfully accomplished in the Old,—the education and civilization of peoples and nations.

In 1816, Rt. Rev. Abbot Boniface Wimmer, with a second colony of Benedictines, crossed the Atlantic, settled in Pennsylvania, and founded a college whose fame has grown with its years. Abbot Wimmer, at the request of Mgr. Joseph Cretin, late Bishop of St. Paul, sent him three Benedictines, Very Rev. Demetrius Morogna, Rev. Cornelius Wittman, and the Rev. Bruno Riss, who arrived in St. Paul May 2d, 1856. Two weeks after their arrival, the two last named reverend gentlemen were ordained priests by the Bishop of St. Paul; this was the first ordination in the State. From St. Paul the Benedictines went to Stearns county, the former home of the Winnebagoes, and arrived in St. Cloud, May 21st, 1856. At that time this northern country was sparsely settled, few Catholics had ventured to the frontier, and these seldom chanced to see a priest. Father Franz X. Pierz, Chippewa missionary, stationed at Crow Wing, was the only priest then in northern Minnesota. He occasionally visited Benton and Stearns counties, but the Catholic population increased rapidly, the field was large, and he could not minister to all. The arrival of the sons of St. Benedict gave the missionary joy; he transferred to their care the little log chapel recently erected at Sauk Rapids, in which the Benedictines officiated for many years.

Catholic migration tended chiefly west of the Mississippi, and thither the shepherds followed the flock; they too settled in Stearns county, on the so-called Rothkopf's claim about two and a half miles south of St. Cloud. Here the Fathers built a monastery in the fall of 1856, of which Father Demetrius Morogna was the first prior. From this retreat they attended congregations in St. Cloud, St. Augusta, St. Wendel, and St. Joseph, in Stearns county, and Sauk Rapids, and the Irish settlement at Brennan's place, in Benton county.

All seemed progressing favorably, when trouble arose in an unexpected quarter. George F. Brott laid claim to the premises of William and Louis Rothkopf—the land on which the monastery stood—and began to urge his claim at Washington. Between St. Paul and St. Cloud, Brott had the mail contract which entitled him to select certain lands not yet occupied. To the above premises, though

(\*Catholic Family Almanac for 1882, page 37.)





occupied long before he got the contract, Brott took a particular fancy, and continued his efforts to get possession of them until he met a certain Caleb B. Smith, at Washington, who had power, and April 25, 1862, kindly acceded to Brott's designs. Of the three hundred and twenty acres, only seventy-five were conceded to the Rothkopfs, and through them to the Benedictine Order.

In the fall of 1856, the first school in Stearns county was opened at St. Cloud, in an unpretentious frame building, by Father Cornelius Wittman. The school was numerously attended, but to found a college was the aim of the Benedictines. To forward this project, Hon. John L. Wilson procured a charter from the legislature, March 6th, 1857, and, in the fall of this year, St. John's college commenced its curriculum with six pupils. An humble beginning! On February 6th, 1864, an amendment was made to the charter, enabling the Order to locate the college any where in Stearns county. The "Indian Bush" was deemed a suitable place. Thither the college was moved, and in 1867, permanently established on its present site. Since then it has had a yearly average attendance of about one hundred pupils pursuing either commercial, scientific, classical, or ecclesiastical studies.

From 1856, to 1867, the Benedictine Order in Minnesota numbered the following Fathers and Lay-brothers:

## FATHERS.

Rev. Benedict Haindl, Prior.

Rev. Demetrius Morogna, Vicar General, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Rev. Clemens Staub, Rector, St. Paul Minnesota.

Rev. Othmar Wirz, Assistant, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Rev. Cornelius Wittman, Rector, Richmond, Minnesota.

Rev. Anschar Frauendorfer, Missionary, Richmond, Minnesota.

Rev. George Scherer, Rector, Shakopee, Minnesota.

Rev. Meinulph Stuckenkemper, Rector, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Rev. Anton Capsar, Missionary, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Rev. Joseph Vill, Missionary, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Rev. Wolfgang Northman, Rector, St. Joseph, Minnesota.

Rev. Valentine Stimmler, Monastery, Minnesota.

## LAY BROTHERS.

Bro. Wolfgang Beck.

Bro. Thaddens Herrmann.

Bro. Vincentius Herrmann.

Bro. Heinrich Durr.

Bro. Maurus Westerwellhaus.

Bro. Placidus Brixius.

Bro. Clemens Wirz.

MISSIONARY WORK OF THE BENEDICTINE PRIORY  
FROM 1856, TO 1867.

During this period the Benedictine order had done missionary and pioneer work in the following thirteen counties of the State, and had erected churches and parochial schools in most of the forty-one cities or towns here mentioned:

Stearns county,—St. Cloud, St. Augusta, St. Wendel, St. Joseph, St. Jacob, St. Nicholas, Richmond, St. Martin, Spring Hill, Lake Henry, Lake George, Meier's Grove, New Munich.

Benton county,—Sauk Rapids, Brennan's Place.

Sherburne county,—Clear Lake.

Wright county,—St. Michael, St. Walburga, Clearwater, Waverly.

Meeker county,—Forest City.

Ramsey county,—St. Paul, St. Anthony.

Hennepin county,—Crystal Lake, Medicine Lake.

Winona county,—Winona.

Scott county,—Shakopee, Jordan, Belle Plaine, St. Benedict, St. Scholastica, Cedar Lake.

Le Sueur county,—St. Thomas, in Derrynane, St. Henry, St. Scholastica, in Heidelberg, St. Cunegunda, in Cleveland.

Sibley county,—St. John.

Carver county,—Chaska, Waconia, Benton.

McLeod county,—Glencoe.

On the 12th of December, 1866, Rev. Rupert Seidenbush, then Prior of St. Vincent's Monastery, Pennsylvania, was unanimously chosen Abbot by the capitularies of the new Monastery; the Bulls confirming the choice were issued on the 15th of March, 1867, and on the 30th of May following, he received at St. Vincent's, the abbatial benediction, and the insignia of his office from the hands of Bishop Carroll, of Covington, Kentucky. Abbott Seidenbush arrived in Minnesota, June 13th, 1867, to labor in a new field. He found his monks in a stone building, 50x65, which had been completed the spring before his arrival. After a short stay, the Abbot went to Germany to collect funds, and to procure mem-



bers for the Order. He returned in the following year and commenced to make improvements. During the eight years of his administration, three brick buildings were added to the Monastery which now presents a frontage of three hundred and ten feet; and at the end of that period the Benedictines of St. Louis abbey were twenty-six priests, sixteen clerics and novices, and twenty lay brothers; the missions in charge of the Benedictines prospered likewise, eleven new churches and several parsonages were erected, and the college, in 1869, received power by act of the Legislature to confer University degrees.

In 1875, the Holy See erected Northern Minnesota into a Vicariate Apostolic, and appointed Rt. Rev. Abbot Seidenbush, Bishop of Halya, i. p. i., and First Vicar of the Vicariate. The Bishop elect resigned his position as Abbot into the hands of the Chapter of the Abbey, which then elected Rev. Alexius Edelbrock, Vicar of the Chapter, and Rev. Cornelius Wittman, Administrator. The Bishop was consecrated on the 30th of May, 1875, and since resides in St. Cloud.

Another Chapter convened on the second of the following June, elected Rev. Alexius Edelbrock, Abbot; the election was confirmed by the Holy See, and the solemn benediction was conferred October 24th, 1875, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Seidenbush.

The new Abbot entered upon the duties of his office no stranger to its difficulties, for he had been Prior of his Monastery, and President of the College under the former administration, nor afraid of its burdens, for he relied upon God.

The wise and energetic administration of Abbot Alexius is marked by the progress the Abbey has made during the past six years. The Abbot's first care was to learn the spiritual and temporal condition of the parishes administered by Benedictine priests, and to put them all in good order. For this purpose, through many privations and much hardship, he visited each parish, and made such regulations as wisdom and prudence suggested. He next directed his efforts to accumulate means to liquidate the large debt of \$26,500, which the Monastery had contracted during the past years; in this undertaking he succeeded, and paid the debt. A church was a deeply felt need. The community was growing, the college was large and increasing, a congregation was growing around the Monastery, but as yet a miserable excuse for a Chapel was the only place set apart

for divine worship. In May, 1879, a new church was begun, and in the following September, the basement being finished, the corner-stone was laid. The edifice is brick, 146x64, built in the Roman style of architecture, ornamented with stained glass windows of artistic design, and two spires, each 150 feet high. The building is under roof, the towers complete, and the interior will be finished next year.

Many minor improvements, workshops, hydraulic works, steam laundry, and many other useful buildings conducive to the success of the Monastery, and to the comforts of its occupants, we leave without mention.

The college is the object of the Abbot's special care. He retains the presidency in his own hands, and spares no effort to increase the number and efficiency of the professional staff. Such has been his success that St. John's College pursues a curriculum that is surpassed by but few colleges in the Union. The public recognize the excellence of the institution, as is manifest by the number of youths attending the different departments to prepare for the various avocations of life. As a mark of his approval and an incentive to further effort, the late Roman Pontiff, Pius IX, of happy memory, gave St. John's College power to confer degrees in Philosophy and in Divinity; the present Pope, Leo XIII, confirmed the grant of his predecessor.

In the interest of the Monastery, the Abbot has twice visited Europe and the Holy See. On each occasion he found friends who tendered him substantial assistance to execute his plans. The Monastery has therefore been enabled, with its other works, to accept the charge of a mission on the White Earth Indian reservation, and, since 1878, to erect a large church and priory, as well as to provide ample school accommodations for the young Indians. The new buildings on the reservation are frame, brick veneered, and resting on stone foundations. Besides the Indian mission, seven others have been taken in charge, fourteen new churches have been built and eight parsonages.

In 1880, the name of the Monastery, St. Louis on the Lake, was changed to correspond with the name of the college. The institution will be known in the future as St. John's Abbey.

The present statistics of the Monastery show 42 priests, 11 clerics, 5 novices, and 39 lay brothers; the Benedictine priests attend 21 rectories





and 16 mission stations. The following catalogue exhibits the personnel of the Abbey, with the location and occupation of each:

## FATHERS.

Rt. Rev. Alexius Edelbrock, O. S. B., Abbot St. John's Abbey.

Very Rev. Norbert Hofbaner, O. S. B., Prior, St. John's Abbey.

Adm. Rev. Peter Engel, O. S. B., Ph. D., Sub-Prior, St. John's Abbey,

Rev. Benedict Haindl, O. S. B., Rector, Cold Spring, Minn.

Rev. Clemens Stanlb, O. S. B., Rector, St. Joseph, Minn.

Rev. Cornelius Wittmann, O. S. B., Rector, Hastings, Minn.

Rev. Anschar Fraucendorfer, O. S. B., Rector, St. Augusta, Minn.

Rev. George Seherer, O. S. B., Ass't., Richmond, Minn.

Rev. Meinulph Stuckenkemper, O. S. B., Rector, Meier's Grove, Minn.

Rev. Antony Capser, O. S. B., Prefect and Prof., St. John's College.

Rev. Joseph Vill, O. S. B., Rector, St. Nicholas, Minn.

Rev. Valentine Stimmler, O. S. B., Rector, Assumption Church, St. Paul.

Rev. Ulric Northmann, O. S. B., Vice-Pres't., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Boniface Moll, O. S. B., Ass't., Hastings, Minn.

Rev. Simplicius Wimmer, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Alphonse Kuisle, O. S. B., Ass't., Assumption Church, St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. Vincent Schiffrer, O. S. R., Rector, St. Stephen and Krain, Minn.

Rev. Bernard Locnikar, O. S. B., D. D., Ass't., Assumption Church, St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. Louis Salzeder, O. S. B., Rector, St. Joseph's Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Rev. Bartholomew Rajgelj, O. S. B., Rector, St. Boniface Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Rev. Meinra Leuthard, O. S. B., Rector, Melrose, Minn.

Rev. Francis X. Mershman, O. S. B., D. D., Prof. St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Pancratius Machren, O. S. B., Rector, Laxenburg, Minn.

Rev. Paul Rettenmaier, O. S. B., Ass't., St. Cloud, Minn.

Rev. Aloysius Hermanutz, O. S. B., Rector, White Earth, Minn.

Rev. Ignatius Wesseling, O. S. B., Rector, Rich Prairie, Minn.

Rev. Maurus Bader, O. S. B., Ass't., St. Joseph's Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Rev. Stanislaus Preisser, O. S. B., Prof. and Rector, Collegeville, Minn.

Rev. Leo Winter, O. S. B., Prefect and Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Gregory Steil, O. S. B., St. John's Abbey.

Rev. William Eversmann, O. S. B., Ass't., St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. Willibrord Mahowald, O. S. B., Rector, Stillwater, Minn.

Rev. Severin Gross, O. S. B., Rector, St. Cloud, Minn.

Rev. Ludger Ehrens, O. S. B., Rector, St. Martin, Minn.

Rev. Bede Northmann, O. S. B., Ass't., St. Joseph Minn.

Rev. Othmar Erreu, O. S. B., Prof. and Rector, St. James, Minn.

Rev. Ambrose Lethert, O. S. B., Rector, Spring Hill, Minn.

Rev. Edward Ginther, O. S. B., Rector, Bismarck, D. T.

Rev. Anselm Sauthmer, O. S. B., Rector, Richmond, Minn.

Rev. Idelphonse Molitor, O. S. B., Ass't., St. Joseph, Minn.

Rev. Xavier White, O. S. B., Prof. St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Augustine Brockmeyer, O. S. B., Rector, New Munich, Minn.

## CLERICS.

Rev. John Katzner, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Martin Schmitt, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Alfred Mayer, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Jerome Heider, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Thomas Borgerding, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Conrad Glatzmaier, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Urban Fischer, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Phacidus Wingerter, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.



Rev. Wolfgang Steinkogler, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

Rev. Alexius Hoffmann, O. S. B., Prof., St John's College, Minn.

Rev. Chrysostom Schreiner, O. S. B., Prof., St. John's College, Minn.

## CITY OF ST. CLOUD.

### CHAPTER LXXXVII.

EARLY BEGINNINGS — WINNEBAGO INDIANS — RED RIVER CARTS — ORGANIZATION — MANUFACTURING — NEWSPAPERS — CHURCHES — SOCIETIES — SCHOOLS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

St. Cloud, the county seat of Stearns county, lies on the west bank of the Mississippi river, on the line of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba railroad, and about seventy-five miles above St. Paul.

It is built on a plateau, elevated about seventy feet above high water mark, and intersected by two ravines, known as the North and South Ravines, which run from the west to the river, about half a mile apart. At the head of the South Ravine there is a small lake, containing about fifty acres, known as Lake George. This lake lies a little back of the center of the city, and by the expenditure of a few thousand dollars, might be converted into a very pleasant resort. Since the first attempt to reclaim this spot from its pristine wildness in 1852, the growth has been steady, and the inhabitants of a thrifty and energetic class, who have made St. Cloud one of the most important and substantial business points in this section of the State. The population, according to the census of 1880, had grown to 2,464, a large majority of whom are German.

EARLY BEGINNINGS.—The first white man to lay claim to the land on which the city of St. Cloud now stands, was Ole Bergeson, a native of Norway. He had been out with a Government surveying party during the summer of 1852, and after his return, in the fall, he located a claim here, and built a log cabin.

During the winter he prepared a large number of fence rails, preparatory to inclosing his farm. General S. B. Lowry, who had, for a number of years, conducted an Indian trading post above

Sauk Rapids, made a claim adjoining Bergeson on the north, also in the fall or winter of 1852. The following year, he took down the log house, which composed his dwelling and store at the post above, and floated it down the river to his new claim, where it was rebuilt as a permanent dwelling.

On the 19th of July, 1853, John L. Wilson, who is now a resident of St. Cloud, purchased Bergeson's claim, including the rails prepared by him, and at once proceeded to enclose what he supposed to be three hundred and twenty acres of land, a portion of which is where the business center of St. Cloud now stands. Having thus secured his possession, he went up the river to Little Falls, and was engaged in mill-building until the spring of 1854, when he returned to his claim. A boundary line was then established between the claims of Wilson and Lowry, which ran east and west, and started at the river a short distance north of the North Ravine. General Lowry then engaged Mr. Wilson to survey and plat a portion of his claim, which was named, by Judge Mecker, Arcadia. This plat, however, was never recorded, and the name was soon forgotten; it is now called Lowry's addition to St. Cloud.

The same season, Mr. Wilson surveyed and platted a portion of his claim, and named it St. Cloud. This was the beginning of the present thriving and beautiful city, named at the head of this article.

Both Lowry and Wilson were troubled for some time by claim-jumpers, and in one instance, Mr. Lowry was compelled to pay a man, named Hitchens, the sum of fifty dollars to quietly vacate. Mr. Wilson is said to have succeeded equally well by threats of immediate extermination to all invaders.

General Lowry claimed his land under a contract with the United States Government for carrying the mails. This claim was, however, set aside by the Commissioner of the Land Department on some technical grounds, but afterwards restored by a decision of the Superior Court.

During the summer of 1854, J. W. Tenvoorde arrived in search of a location for a colony which proposed emigration from Evansville, Indiana. He is now a resident of the city. In October, 1854, Anton Edelbrock came and rented Mr. Wilson's house, in which he opened a general store, and conducted it in that building for a number of years. Mr. Edelbrock brought his family with him, which was the first in the place.





At that time all teams from the East forded the river at the foot of Sauk Rapids, about two miles below the fording place of the "Red river carts," which was at the Russell trading post, near the upper end of the present city of Sauk Rapids.

In the spring of 1855, Joseph Edelbrock, a brother of Anton, came with his family and built a frame house, in which he opened a general store. He is now a prominent merchant of the city.

During that summer, Mr. Tenvoorde, mention of whom has already been made, returned and opened a general store.

In 1853, James Keough, now a resident of St. Joseph township, came over from Benton county, and settled on the Sauk river, near where Hayward's mill recently stood, and was the first settler in the present township of St. Cloud.

He was followed the next season by John Rengel, Sen. and John Rengel, Jr. and John Schwartz, who made claims adjoining Wilson on the west, also outside of the city limits.

In the spring of 1854, Martin Woolley staked out a claim to the south of Mr. Wilson, but made no improvements. He soon afterwards sold it to Anton Edelbrock and J. P. Wilson for three hundred dollars, and Edelbrock subsequently disposed of his interest to his partner for five hundred dollars. A stock company of twelve men was then formed, consisting of George F. Brott, J. P. Wilson, H. T. Welles, J. C. Moulton, H. C. White, John H. Taylor, L. Cram, Orrin Curtis, George W. Curtis, Frank Sisson, J. H. Seymour, and C. T. Stearns, the stock consisting of twelve shares of \$1,000 each. This company surveyed and platted the Woolley claim, and gave it the name of St. Cloud City, but it is now more commonly known as Lower Town.

A dissolution of partnership soon occurred, and the land was divided into twelve lots, each stockholder drawing his own property by lot.

A company was then formed, consisting of J. P. Wilson, George F. Brott, H. T. Welles, and C. T. Stearns, for the purpose of erecting a steam saw-mill. The mill was built in 1855, and operated until 1858, when it was destroyed by fire. A convenient hotel, called the Stearns House, was also erected the same season. It served as a hostelry for a number of years, but is now used as a Home for the Normal students.

After the completion of this hotel and the saw-mill, the opinion became quite general that this would be the business center of St. Cloud, and

relying on that belief, a number of stores and other places of business were established during the following two years. Among these pioneer merchants at Lower Town were, W. & C. F. Powell, now well to do merchants of this city, West & Horine, afterwards West & Mason; Mr. West is the present Post-master in the city; Miller & Swiss-helm; Mr. Miller has since been Governor of Minnesota, and died in the summer of 1881. Dr. Silas Marlatt, who now keeps a drug store in this city; General H. Z. Mitchell, who is also a prominent merchant in St. Cloud, Cutter & Bradley, N. N. Smith, Sisson & Seymour, and E. C. Smith. Notwithstanding this array of merchandize at Lower Town, the farmers and others seemed to have a preference for the more slightly location at St. Cloud, and patronized the few stores there very extensively. Noticing this discrimination, the merchants began moving to the more favored locality, and during the years of 1859-60-61, all transferred their buildings and stock to St. Cloud, except a few who retired from business.

St. Cloud was the head of navigation, and steamboats plied regularly between here and St. Anthony, and the Red River trains to and from St. Paul also crossed the river at this place, making it quite an extensive distributing point. According to a map which appeared in the first issue of "The St. Cloud Advertiser," in the fall of 1857, the territorial roads extended from St. Cloud in all directions, as follows: On the west side of the river down to Minneapolis, and on the east side, to St. Anthony; in an easterly direction to St. Croix Falls, and in a northeasterly direction to Lake Superior; one on each side of the river to Crow Wing, one northwesterly to Breckenridge, one southwesterly to Fort Ridgely, where it intersected with the Government road from Minneapolis to California, and one in a southerly direction to Traverse des Sioux, or St. Peter.

The land occupied by St. Cloud, and the vicinity on the west side of the river, was purchased from the Sioux Indians in a treaty made with them by the Hon. Alexander Ramsey and Luke Lea, in 1852, and ratified by the United States Senate the same year. The Sioux had owned the land from 1827, but had not occupied it, and it was used as a hunting ground by the Winnebagoes, whose land reached within four miles of St. Cloud, on the north. The territory of the latter was ceded to the United States by a treaty begun with Commissioner Manypenny, concluded at Washington





in February, 1855, and ratified by the Senate on the 3d of March following.

In May or June of the following year (1856) they removed to their reservation on the Blue Earth river, but not without a severe quarrel with the white settlers residing at St. Cloud.

Although the Indians removed from the immediate vicinity, yet they were frequently seen in large numbers, a few miles west of here, for a number of years.

In May, 1860, a fight took place between the Chippeways and Sioux, near Maine Prairie; four of the Sioux were killed, and the Chippeway Chief, Hole-in-the-Day, wounded. Three of the fallen braves were scalped, but the head of the fourth was cut off and brought by the triumphant Chippeways to Sauk Rapids, where Dr. Simonton, of St. Cloud, obtained it. It was on exhibition at the Doctor's office for several days.

One day, in July, 1860, the census marshal rode into town in great haste, claiming that he had been informed that the Indians had risen at a payment on the Minnesota river, and were massacring the settlers. Before night, the farmers, with their wives and children, horses and cattle, came swarming into town from all directions. The St. Cloud Guards turned out, and every man in town volunteered to go and meet the Indians. But the scare was without foundation, and the next day the settlers returned to their homes.

**RED RIVER TRAINS.**—As before stated, the Red River carts crossed the Mississippi at St. Cloud, on their way to and from St. Paul.

"The St. Cloud Visiter," in its issue of June 24, 1858, thus graphically describes one of those trains: "A Red River train, of one hundred and forty carts, camped on the St. Cloud prairie on Saturday evening last, and on Sabbath afternoon, proceeded on their journey, crossing at Fowler's ferry. They were en route to St. Paul with peltry. They had come from Pembina, and had been three weeks on the road. As St. Cloud is the first town on their route eastward, they, very naturally, lay over on the prairie half a day, to repair their toilets before passing through.

The drivers were principally half-breeds, and each one displayed more or less bead-work and bright colored sashes. There were several women in the train, each one driving her own cart, and it is remarkable that the priority, everywhere given to their sex in America, is apparent even in the arrangements of these primitive travelers.

The carts of the women are painted and have a cover, with other appearances of greater attention to comfort, than is displayed in the carts appropriated to the men. One large, healthy, good-humored woman showed her maternal caution, by stopping her cart opposite our door, before coming to the steep bluff leading down to the river, and taking out her little, almost white baby, to carry it in her arms, evidently for fear of accident in the descent. \* \* \* \* \*

They report that the Hudson Bay Company expect to send down two hundred carts this summer, and to get a considerable portion of their return load in St. Cloud.

These carts are generally made without any iron, but a few of them had light hoops on the hubs, and metal boxes for the axles to turn in. Most of them are drawn by oxen, in single harness of untanned hide, joined together with thongs of the same material. They use open collars and hames, thus showing a degree of humanity to their beasts, which would be worthy of imitation by more civilized people, who compel their oxen to drag heavy loads by a small stick pressing upon the throat. They had quite a number of Indian ponies, some drawing carts, and others trotting along free. These ponies are not pretty. Living entirely upon grass and hay, they are heavy bodied, and make one wonder whether wild horses ever can be so finely formed as the domestic animal, which lives principally on more concentrated food."

#### ORGANIZATION.

St. Cloud was first incorporated as a town by an act of the Legislature passed on the 1st of March, 1856. J. L. Wilson was the first President. In 1862, this act was repealed, and a new act passed incorporating the Town of St. Cloud, and providing for a Mayor and four Aldermen, to be elected at large. Judge L. A. Evans was chosen first Mayor, and H. C. Burbank, John W. Ten Voorde, Joseph Broker, and Barney Overbeck, constituted the Common Council, with A. B. Curry, Recorder.

In 1868, it was incorporated as a city, and divided into four wards. Judge E. O. Hamlin was elected Mayor, with the following board of Aldermen: L. A. Evans, President; Peter Smith, Thomas Smith, T. C. Alden, Leander Gorton, J. R. Bennett, O. Tenny, C. Bridgman, Andrew Fritz, L. R. Robbers, Lewis Clark, and H. C. Burbank. N. F. Barnes was Clerk.



The city government is being conducted under the provisions of this last act, and has grown in wealth and substantial business improvements. The development of manufacturing industries, and the organization and growth of churches, societies, schools, and other evidences of a vigorous and healthy municipality, will be considered in the closing pages of this chapter.

#### MANUFACTURING.

The first mill erected in St. Cloud was in 1855, by George F. Brott and others, as before mentioned. After a few months it was sold to Sidney C. Raymond, who operated it until the summer of 1856, and sold it to Gorton, Cook, and Bridgman; but before the legal transfer had been made, the mill was burned to the ground. It was, however, rebuilt by Raymond, and possession given the purchasers in October of the same year. The following winter, Torbet, Inman & Co. bought the property, and in 1858, it passed into the hands of Owen, Cook, and Bridgman. After two years, Owen disposed of his interest to Bridgman, who also purchased Cook's interest two years later, and is still the owner. It is known as Bridgman's Upper Mill, and has a daily capacity of 25,000 feet.

The mill known as Bridgman's Lower Mill was built in 1865, by E. M. Tobey, who run it till December, 1868, when it was sold to C. Bridgman, the present owner. The daily capacity of this mill is 30,000 feet.

Raymond & Owen's Door, Sash, and Blind Factory was erected by J. H. Raymond and J. H. Owen, the present proprietors, in 1857. It was 40x50 feet, and two and a half stories high, but was destroyed by the breaking up of the ice in April, 1862. The machinery was saved, and the proprietors at once began the erection of their present factory. It is 30x40 feet, and two stories high. The business amounts to from ten to fifteen thousand dollars annually.

The Northern Pacific Planing Mill, and Door, Sash, and Blind Factory are operated by F. H. Dam. This enterprise was begun in 1863, by Mr. Dam and W. T. Clarke, who built a planing mill on the opposite side of the street from the present site. In 1867, Mr. Dam bought Mr. Clarke's interest, pulled down the old mill, and erected his present establishment, adding a large amount of new machinery, and the door, sash, and blind de-

partment. Mr. Dam also carries on an extensive business as contractor and builder, besides lumbering and logging to a considerable extent. He conducts a lumber yard in this city, and another at Alexandria, Douglas county.

The Novelty Wood Works are carried on by F. E. Levanseler, who erected the establishment in 1876. It is 30x50 feet, and two stories high, and is well furnished with the necessary machinery to manufacture all kinds of woodwork. The motive power is a thirty horse-power engine. Mr. Levanseler also carries on the business of contractor and builder to some extent.

The business of the Rosenberger Manufacturing Company is conducted by B. Rosenberger and his sons, J. M. and H. J. Rosenberger. It consists of a foundry, blacksmith and plow shops, and wood shop, which are furnished with all the necessary machinery for a first class manufactory of its kind. A specialty is made of farm machinery, although engines and other machinery are manufactured quite extensively. The junior members of this firm also own a large hardware store at the corner of St. Germaine and Richmond streets.

J. F. Stevenson & Co.'s foundry and machine shops were erected in 1871, by M. P. Noel, J. F. Stevenson, and others, but soon passed into the hands of Mr. Stevenson. It is now operated by the latter and his son, although retaining the original company name. All kinds of farm and mill machinery are manufactured.

David H. Spicer established a furniture factory in 1878, and still conducts the business. The building is 24x75 feet, and well equipped with machinery, which is driven by an eight horse-power engine. This establishment employs eight men, and a large amount of goods are manufactured annually.

In 1880, Albertis Montgomery and his son, William C., erected a chair factory, which is still operated by them. It is a frame building, 20x40 feet with an L, 20x20 feet. A six horse-power engine drives the necessary machinery. William C. Montgomery is the Superintendent.

R. L. Scott carries on the St. Cloud Carriage Works. His building is 24x78 feet, and two stories high, consisting of a blacksmith shop, wood shop, sales room, etc. The enterprise was begun by the present proprietor in 1867.





Sebra Rathbun commenced the manufacture of carriages here in 1871. His works occupy three buildings, one 24x50 feet with an L 22x32 feet, one 24x70 feet, and the other, 22x68 feet. These buildings contain all the necessary machinery for a first class carriage factory and blacksmith shop. The motive power is a twelve horse-power engine.

Anderson & Sons began the manufacture of carriages in 1875. Their building is 24x60 feet, and the necessary machinery is driven by a ten horse-power engine. Ten men are employed in this establishment.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

In 1856, a stock company, with George F. Brott as President, was organized, and the publication of the "Minnesota Advertiser" commenced, the first number appearing on the first of January, 1857. The paper was published by James Mowatt, and edited by H. M. Cowles, who was succeeded, in a few months, by James C. Shepley. In the fall of the same year, the "Advertiser" was discontinued, and the "St. Cloud Visiter" established, with Mr. Mowatt as publisher, and Jane Grey Swisshelm, editress.

In July, 1858, the "Visiter" was suspended, and in August, Mrs. Swisshelm, having obtained possession of the office and fixtures, press, type, etc., commenced the publication of the "St. Cloud Democrat." In June, 1863, the establishment was purchased by W. B. Mitchell, who continued the "Democrat" till September, 1866, when the name was changed to the "St. Cloud Journal," but has borne the name of the "St. Cloud Journal Press" for a number of years.

In 1871, a number of prominent citizens started a paper called the "St. Cloud Press." It was carried on for several years, but finally consolidated with the St. Cloud Journal, the latter paper afterwards appearing under the name of the "St. Cloud Journal Press."

The "St. Cloud Times" is an outgrowth of the "St. Cloud Union," which was established in 1861, with the material formerly used by the Hon. W. H. Wood, in the publication of the "New Era," at Sauk Rapids. The paper was leased by Gen. S. B. Lowry, and Gen. C. C. Andrews was the editor. In 1862, the office reverted to Mr. Wood, by whom the "Union" continued to be published till 1863, when it was sold to Spafford and Simonton. In 1864, R. Channing Moore assumed the editorial management, and changed

the name to the "St. Cloud Times," the publishers being Thomas and Joseph Simonton. The "Times" has been owned successively by Simonton Brothers, Simonton & Barnes, A. J. Reed, Evans & Green, L. A. Evans, R. W. Delano, Lamb & Rhodes, Will H. Lamb and C. F. MacDonald, the present editor and proprietor, into whose hands it passed in January, 1875.

In November, 1872, soon after the paper had become the property of Lamb & Rhodes, a fire occurred which destroyed the office, press, material, files, etc. But hardly had the smoke cleared away, when the proprietors were on hand with material to replace the loss, and in a few weeks, the paper again fell from their own press. It had been printed, in the meantime, at the "Journal" office.

A German newspaper, named "Der Nordstern," was started on the 17th of December, 1874, by Peter Brick and Peter E. Kaiser, who conducted it about a year, and sold to J. L. Meyer and Leo Brick, who converted it from a six column quarto to a six column folio, the present size. In about two years, Peter E. Kaiser again became an owner, by the purchase of Meyer's interest, and Brick & Kaiser published the paper until the 1st of March, 1881. Kaiser's interest was then purchased by William L. Rosenberger and John Rentz, who, a few month's later, also purchased Mr. Meyer's share, and it is now published by Rosenberger & Rentz. Its circulation is about 2,200, being exceeded by but two or three weeklies in the State.

#### BANKS.

In 1859, Henry C. Waite and Thomas C. McClure opened a bank in a small room over Edelbrock's store, which they carried on till 1860. Mr. McClure was then appointed Register of the Land office, and Mr. Waite conducted the banking business alone until 1864. He then succeeded Mr. McClure in the Land office, and the latter returned to the bank, which he operated until his death in the summer of 1881. It is now known as Clarke & McClure's Bank.

The Bank of St. Cloud was established by James A. Bell and Joseph G. Smith, about 1867. It was conducted as a private bank until December, 1879, when it was changed to a State bank, with a capital of \$50,000.00.

#### RELIGIOUS.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This church was organized on the 19th of November, 1864, by the



Rev. E. V. Campbell, with ten members. The Elders were Marshall McComb and James Biggerstaff. A church was erected the following year, and dedicated on the 7th of January, 1866. The cost of the building was \$1,350.00, to which a lecture room has since been added at a cost of \$1,500.00.

The present membership is eighty-five, and the officers are: Elders, H. Z. Mitchell, James Biggerstaff, Joseph Hill, and E. D. Moore; and Deacon, Lewis Clark. Mr. Campbell is the present Pastor, having had charge of the congregation almost continuously since its organization.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.**—This congregation was organized on the 10th of February, 1864, with eleven members; Horace P. Bennett was Deacon, and Dr. W. R. Hunter, Clerk. A building spot was purchased in September, 1866, on which a substantial brick church was erected the following year, at a cost of \$3,000.00. The board of trustees who superintended its erection were, Charles F. Davis, William Mulliken, and William T. Clarke; H. P. Bennett was Treasurer, and G. L. Porter, Clerk. The successive Pastors have been, Revs. George I. Woods, James Tompkins, Henry Mills, Cyrus Pickett, George R. Milton, and Nathan C. Chapin, the present minister. The present membership is forty-one, and the officers are: Trustees, Joseph E. Wing, A. T. Whitman, and William T. Clarke; Deacons, Horace P. Bennett and George I. Porter.

**CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—CATHOLIC.**—Father Pierz, the well known missionary Priest, came to St. Cloud in the spring of 1855, and held the first mass at the residence of Joseph Edelbroek, on the 22d of May. In the fall of that year, lumber for a church was purchased, and the building erected the following year at a cost of \$850.00. Most of the members were carpenters, and all assisted in the erection of their first house of worship, charging nothing for their labor. This building is now in use as the Sisters' Home.

After nearly ten years service, the old church was found to be inadequate for the reception of the rapidly increasing members, and steps were taken for the erection of a more commodious edifice. The present church was accordingly built, and dedicated on the 8th of December, 1866, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Grace, of St. Paul. It is an imposing brick structure, 75x125 feet, with a seating capacity of six hundred and thirteen persons, and cost \$35,000.00. A priests' house was also erect-

ed, on the same grounds, in 1868, at a cost of \$8,000.00. The priests who have had charge of this congregation successively are, Fathers Demetrius de Morogin, Cornelius Wittmann, Alexius Boetzer, Benedict Haindl, Clemens Stanb, Meinulph Stuckenkemper, under whose pastorate the new church was built, Alphonse Kuisle, and Severin Gross, the present incumbent, who is ably assisted by Father Paul Rettenmaier.

The membership has increased from eighty-five, at the organization in the fall of 1855, to sixteen hundred.

There is a private school in connection with this church. It is presided over by a male Principal, who is assisted by the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict. It was organized as a parish school in 1864, and continued as such until 1875, since when it has been conducted as a private school.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. CLOUD.**—The first Methodist minister who held services here, was Rev. John Pugh. He remained only about four weeks and was followed by Rev. Levi Gleason, who organized the first church in 1858. The first quarterly conference was held in St. Cloud, in July of the same year, at the house of Ambrose Freeman, who was the first class leader.

A church was built at Lower Town in the summer of 1864, and dedicated on the 4th of September, by Bishop Kingsley. The cost of the building was upwards of \$3,000. In April, 1873, it was removed to Upper Town, and dedicated in its new location the same year. The clergymen who have succeeded Rev. Mr. Gleason, are Revs., C. G. Bowdish, A. J. Nelson, Bartley Blain, S. T. Sterrett, David Tice, J. R. Creighton, William W. Satterlee, Harvey Webb, James T. Lawton, J. S. Hilton, J. W. Clepper, Isaac Riddick, J. M. Marsh, and M. O. McNiff, the present minister.

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH—EPISCOPAL.**—This church was organized on the 12th of April, 1856, by the Rev. J. S. Chamberlin. The first officers were: Wardens, L. B. Johnson and James H. Taylor; Vestrymen, J. C. Shepley, William S. Judd, and W. B. Crum; Clerk, John H. Taylor; and Trustee, Charles Taylor. A church was built in 1857, which has been much enlarged and improved. The ministers who have succeeded Rev. Mr. Chamberlin, are Revs. M. Chase, George Stewart, George L. Chase, John Scott, Samuel K. Stewart, J. T. Chambers, J. Taylor, G. H. Davis, and Philip McKim, the present minister.

**BAPTIST CHURCH.**—The first religious services





held by protestants in St. Cloud, was by the Rev. A. C. McLaughlin of this denomination, in a grove in Lower Town, near the present residence of John Ball, in July, 1855. An organization was effected on the 28th of December, by this minister, with eight or ten members. By the courtesy of Orrin Curtis and George F. Brott in giving forty lots for a church site, the highest aspiration was infused into the members, and a large church was begun and partially completed; but on account of hard times, the war, and some unavoidable irregularities, the whole enterprise failed. The members of this church were: Henry Pratt, Mr and Mrs. Leland Cram, Rev. A. C. McLaughlin and wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. West, Mr. and Mrs. N. N. Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Spicer. The officers were: Trustees, George F. Brott, N. N. Smith, and John Ball; Clerk, N. N. Smith; and Treasurer, D. H. Spicer.

During the war, a second church, called Calvary, was organized, but after a short life, ceased to exist. The present church was organized with eleven members in 1864, and the house of worship erected in 1873.

The officers of this latter organization were: Trustees, J. H. Raymond, D. W. Sprague, and D. H. Spicer; Deacon, Albert Smith; and Clerk, D. H. Spicer.

A German Lutheran Church of the Missouri order, was organized about 1868, with twenty members, but services have been discontinued for some years. The Pastors were: Revs. Listinan, Fetter, and Menda. William Albrecht and F. Wagner were the Elders, and Henry Green, Deacon.

**WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.**—The object of this society is to hold public meetings, circulate petitions in aid of the temperance cause, distribute temperance literature, etc.

It was organized in 1879, by Mrs. J. L. Foster, of Iowa, with about thirty members. The first officers were: President, Mrs. A. C. Blaisdell, and a Vice-President from each church in the city; Secretary, Mrs. W. W. Wright; and Treasurer, Mrs. A. C. Blaisdell.

**ST. CLOUD LIBRARY.**—The ladies of St. Cloud organized a Library Association in 1866, which is still in a flourishing condition. By means of sewing circles, tea parties, suppers, etc., a large amount of money has been raised, and devoted to the purchase of about three thousand volumes of standard literature.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

**ST. CLOUD LODGE, No. 63, A. O. U. W.**—This lodge was instituted on the 10th of April, 1880, with twenty members. It has since maintained a steady growth, having within its organization a large number of the representative men of the city. The first officers were: M. Mickley, P. M.; J. E. Wing, M.; A. L. Cram, G. F.; C. F. Wheeler, O.; J. H. Raymond, G.; T. J. Gray, R. S.; W. L. Beebe, F.; W. B. Mitchell, R.; E. Hart, I. W.; and D. Rathbun, O. W.

**NORTH STAR LODGE, No. 23, A. F. and A. M.**—The first meeting of this lodge was held under dispensation at Watala, Benton county, on the 31st of October, 1857. The first officers were: Martin G. Smith, W. M.; Richard C. Bardick, S. W.; James K. Miller, J. W.; Taylor Dudley, Sec.; David Gilman, Treas.; Peter Grant, S. D.; D. I. Boynton, J. D.; and P. Hanson, Tyler. The charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, on the 8th of January, 1858, and the lodge instituted, and officers elected and installed on the 16th of the same month. The installation ceremonies were conducted by J. M. Lackey, and all the officers, acting under the dispensation, were elected and installed, except P. Hanson, who was succeeded as Tyler, by Henry Hillman.

This lodge was removed to St. Cloud in 1865. The membership now numbers seventy-eight.

**BLUECHER LODGE, No. 17, SONS OF HERMAN.**—This society was organized on the 10th of July, 1880, with ten members. The first officers were: Frank Balder, President; Peter Vandershuis, Vice President; Anton Wankin, Secretary; and Henry Ottensmeyer, Treasurer. Meetings are held semi-monthly.

**DIAMOND LODGE, No. 104, I. O. G. T.**—This organization was effected on the 17th of June, 1875, by Miss H. L. Hood, Deputy G. W. C. T., with fifty-two members. The first officers were: Rev. H. S. Hilton, W. C. T.; Elora Hayward, W. V. T.; E. S. Hill, R. S.; Frank Tolman, F. S.; Mrs. C. C. Tobey, T.; Richard Smith, M.; Rev. W. E. Stanley, Chap.; Mimie McIntire, G.; James Biggerstaff, S.; Mary Lock, A. S.; Lizzie Barnes, D. M.; Mrs. H. S. Hilton, R. H. S.; Mrs. S. Marlatt, L. H. S.; Joseph Hill, Lodge Deputy.

#### SCHOOLS.

A private school was taught in St. Cloud as early as the fall of 1855, by Father Cornelius Wittmann, O. S. B., in the dwelling of Joseph





Edelbrock. One room served the purpose, in which religious services were also conducted. This room was furnished by Mr. Edelbrock, free, and Father Wittmann conducted the school on the same terms. The pupils were: Mary, Anton, the present Abbot of St. Joseph's College, Barney and Joseph Edelbrock, Henry and Lizzie Rosenberger, Mary and Thompson Brown, Joseph Reichert, and Louis Emmel.

In the fall of 1856, a school house was built in Lower Town, and named the Everett School, in honor of Edward Everett, of Massachusetts, who contributed a library of one hundred and twenty-five volumes, and rendered other substantial aid. The first school taught in this building was in the winter of 1856-57, by Miss Amelia Talcott, now Mrs. T. C. Alden. This was a subscription school.

The first public school was opened in this building on Monday, the 20th of December, 1858, with M. P. Noel as teacher, and an enrollment of thirty-three scholars. This was the foundation stone of the present public school system of St. Cloud.

The Everett school building continued in use as a school house until 1868; it is now used, chiefly, as a polling place, and stands in the First ward, near the Normal School Building. Rev. E. V. Campbell conducted a school of a more advanced grade, in 1868, in a building not far from where the Congregational church now stands. It had two departments, and two teachers were employed.

In 1858, the Methodist Episcopal Church opened a school for young ladies, in a building known as the "Seminary Building," continuing it for several years.

After this closed, the Protestant Episcopal Church opened a school in the same building, but after about two years, this effort also ceased.

In 1869, the present City school building, in the Second ward, was erected. This is a substantial brick building, about seventy-five feet square, and three stories high, and cost, in round numbers, \$17,000. In 1875, the city had grown so that it became necessary to form a new district. The St. Cloud Independent District was then formed, and another building erected, in the Third ward. This was also built of brick, 40x55 feet, and two stories high, at a cost of \$6,000. The reports of these schools, for 1881, show the following figures: The St. Cloud District, or that continuing the first City building, employed one Principal and five assistants, at an aggregate salary of \$2,845. The average daily attendance was

two hundred and sixty-one scholars. The St. Cloud Independent District employed one Principal and two assistants, at an aggregate salary of \$1,564. There were one hundred and fifty scholars enrolled, and an average daily attendance of one hundred and twenty-six.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.—This school was organized in the fall of 1869, with Ira Moore as Principal, in a building now used as a "Home" for the young ladies attending the school. The first enrollment contained the names of sixty Normal, and one hundred Model students.

This building was filled to its utmost capacity from the beginning, and Professor Moore, with marked executive ability, conducted the School until 1875. In the summer of 1874, the present building was erected at a cost of \$60,000. It is built of brick, and rests on a stone foundation. The capacity is two hundred and fifty Normal, and one hundred Model students, and it is pronounced, by competent judges, to be one of the best, in design and construction, for the purpose, in the West.

In the fall of 1875, Prof. D. L. Kiehle was elected Principal of the School, which has continued to enjoy a constant and healthy growth. During the last few years, less attention has been given to the Preparatory department, and the standard of the Normal department has been raised. Yet, it is due the credit of the State, in her educational interests, to say that the number of students have constantly increased. Professor D. L. Kiehle has recently retired from his position in this institution, and accepted that of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Thomas L. Gray is now Acting Principal.

The State Normal Board consists of: Hon. Thomas Simpson, Winona; Hon. D. Burt, St. Paul; Hon. S. C. Gale, Minneapolis; John H. Ray, Esq., Mankato; W. B. Mitchell, Esq., St. Cloud; Rev. G. W. T. Wright, D. D., Lake City; and Professor Sanford Niles, Rochester.

The officers are: Hon. Thomas Simpson, President; Hon. D. Burt, Secretary; and W. B. Mitchell, Esq., Resident Director and Treasurer.

The Instructors are, Thomas J. Gray, Institute Conductor and Natural Science, and also, Acting Principal; Isabel Lawrence, Methods and Superintendent of Model School; C. W. G. Hyde, Music, Penmanship, Accounts and Physiology; Ada A. Warner, Mathematics, Drawing and Geography; H. Celia Higgins, Latin, History, and Grammar;



Mary E. Laing, Rhetoric, English Literature, and Grammar; Waite A. Shoemaker, preparatory studies; and Mary L. Wright, Model School. Mrs. A. V. Whitney is Matron of the Home, and F. T. Whitney, Janitor.

The whole number of students is now one hundred and fifty-five; eighty in the Normal, and seventy-five in the Model department, the latter being filled to its utmost capacity.

## CHAPTER LXXXVIII.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### A TO M.

THOMAS C. ALDEN, one of the pioneers of St. Cloud, is a native of Hartford, Connecticut, and was born on the 1st of November, 1827. He grew to manhood at the old homestead, and in 1848, went to California in the ship "Henry Lee," by way of Cape Horn. He remained there, engaged in mercantile pursuits most of the time, until February, 1855, when he took a trip to China and the Sandwich Islands, returning to New York in March, 1856. In the fall of that year, he came to St. Cloud, and has resided here ever since. Mr. Alden's voyages and business ventures on the Pacific had not been fruitless, and he came to St. Cloud possessed of considerable means, the greater part of which he soon lost by loaning to irresponsible parties. In 1860, he engaged in the butcher business, which he continued five years. He then purchased a piece of land, which is within the present city limits, and erected thereon his present residence. During the Indian outbreak, Mr. Alden went as Second Lieutenant, in Captain Freeman's "Northern Rangers," to the relief of Forest City and Fort Abercrombie. He was elected Sheriff of Stearns county in 1869, and served until 1872, and has since then been engaged in farming. Miss Amelia S. Talcott, a native of Glastonbury, Connecticut, became the wife of Mr. Alden, in March, 1858, the marriage taking place at St. Cloud. Their children are, William H., Horace, May L., and Anna E.

WILLIAM H. ALDEN, the eldest son of the subject of the above brief memoir, was born in St. Cloud, on the 10th of December, 1858. His boyhood, when not attending school, was spent on his father's farm. Since August, 1880, he has filled

the position of Clerk in the United States land office at St. Cloud.

ANDREW ANDERSON is one of the leading Carriage Manufacturers of St. Cloud, and conducts the business in partnership with his sons, under the firm name of Anderson & Sons. Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden, and came to St. Cloud in 1870. He was married to Miss Stina Larson, in 1849. They have six children, Lars M., August, John H., Johanna, Mary C., and Olof W.

WILLIAM ALBRECHT is a native of Prussia, born on the 13th of October, 1828. He came to America in 1854, remaining two months in Canada, four months in Illinois, two years in La Fayette, Indiana, one year in Davenport, Iowa, and ten years in Clearwater Minnesota; during this time he worked at the blacksmith trade. He then went to Maywood, Benton county, and was engaged in farming, five years, but in 1873, came to St. Cloud and resumed his blacksmith business, which he still continues. Mr. Albrecht was united in marriage with Miss Kathrina Singen, on the 1st of May, 1856. They have six children, Louisa, William, Mary, Frederick, Amelia, and Henry.

NATHAN F. BARNES, one of the old settlers of northern Minnesota, and at present, City Justice of St. Cloud, is a native of Portland, Maine, born on the 26th of June, 1817. After passing through the ordinary routine of a common school and academic education, in 1834, he was appointed midshipman in the Navy, and served five years. His first voyage was to the island of Madeira, sailing thence to the Cape de Verd islands and the coast of Brazil, between the Amazon and La Plata rivers. Another trip took him to the Gulf of Mexico and the West Indies, and for nine months he was in the South Sea exploring expedition, under Commodore Thomas Ap Catesby Jones. On being discharged, he returned to Portland, and in 1840, entered as a student, the law office of Hon. Joseph Howard, afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court of Maine, and was admitted to the Bar of Cumberland county, in 1843; he soon after removed to Conway, New Hampshire, where he practiced law six years. In 1850, Mr. Barnes became mail agent on the Isthmus route from New York to San Francisco, where he continued for six years, and the next two years resided in California, engaged in mining. In 1858, he came to Alexandria, Douglas county, Minnesota, where he was the first settler. He remained there about seven years, and during the Sioux outbreak, he and Andreas Dar-







ling were the only two persons who remained, the others fleeing for safety to different points. In the spring of 1865, Mr. Barnes removed to St. Cloud, purchased a half interest in the "St. Cloud Times," and conducted it one year; was then elected City Justice and City Clerk, holding the former office for many years. In 1865 and in 1875, he was a member of the house of representatives of Minnesota, and during the first session, was instrumental in securing the location of one of the State Normal Schools at St. Cloud. Mr. Barnes was a member of the State Normal Board for several years, and the first resident director at St. Cloud. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary P. Sparhawk, on the 24th of April, 1844, at Conway, New Hampshire. They have had seven children, four of whom are dead. Frederic P., Theodore A., and George K., died of diphtheria on the 5th, 9th, and 14th of December, 1853. Percival S., died in Salisbury (North Carolina) prison, during the civil war. Margaret S., Elizabeth W., and Frederic P., are all graduates of the St. Cloud Normal School, and finely educated.

WARREN L. BEEBE, a native of Belpre, Ohio, was born on the 16th of March, 1848. He attended the graded school and College at Marietta, Ohio, graduating from the latter in 1870. He then took a course at the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, graduating in 1873, after which he practiced medicine at Barlow, Ohio, for three years. In 1876, he attended the Bellevue Medical College, from which he graduated, and afterwards practiced in his native town until October, 1878, when he came to St. Cloud, which has since been his residence. Dr. Bebee was married on the 28th of December, 1876, to Miss Maria T. Harte. They have one son, named William H.

GEORGE S. BRIGHAM was born at Bakersfield, Franklin county, Vermont, on the 16th of June, 1845. After taking the usual preparatory courses, he entered McGill College, at Montreal, Canada, from which he graduated in March, 1871. He then went to Sheldon, Franklin county, Vermont, and practiced medicine until 1876, when he removed to Austin, Minnesota, which was his home until September, 1878, when he came to St. Cloud, where he has since diligently practiced his profession. The Doctor was married on the 22d of June, 1875, to Mrs. Emily C. Farrar. They have three children; Charles F., Florence L., and Frank T.

LEVI L. BALL dates his birth at Wilton, Maine,

on the 11th of October, 1836. While Levi was yet a lad, the family removed to Weymouth Landing, Massachusetts, where our subject grew to manhood. In 1856, he came to St. Cloud, and has been engaged most of the time since, as an engineer, and now holds that position in the Novelty Wood Works in this city. He was first married to Miss Mary Guptil, who died after eighteen months of wedded life. His present wife was Miss Rachel H. Hall. They have two children; John L. and Etta M.

THOMAS H. BROWN dates his birth in England, on the 29th of October, 1855. When quite young, he came to America with his parents, and resided at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, until August, 1873, when he came to St. Cloud. The first two years after coming here, were spent at school, after which he was engaged for some time as clerk in a store, and afterwards was employed in the Post-office for three years. In February, 1881, he formed a partnership with Messrs. Hussay and Honer, painter, of this city, which partnership still continues. Mr. Brown's wife was Miss Jennie M. Washburn. They have one child, Lola I.

FRED O. BATTIS was born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 23d of March, 1855. In 1860, he commenced railroading as a brakeman for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company, in whose employ he continued six years. He then came to St. Paul, and was in the employ the St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad Company for three years, and has since been with the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad Company; first as a freight conductor, and since October, 1880, has been yardmaster at their depot in St. Cloud. He was married on the 16th of September, 1873, to Miss Lucelia Reed. They have one child, an infant not named.

CHARLES BRIDGMAN, one of the oldest lumber manufacturers and dealers in St. Cloud, is a native of Amherst, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, and was born on the 22d of December, 1829. His native town claimed him as a resident until 1856, when he came to St. Cloud, and has ever since been prominently identified with the lumber interests of the city, besides taking an active part in local political affairs, tending to its development. Mr. Bridgman was elected a member of the board of Aldermen in 1868, served seven years, was again elected in 1880, and still holds the position. He has been a member of the public and Normal school boards,



the duties of which he discharged with much ability. Miss Sarah L. Cook, of Granby, Massachusetts, became the wife of Mr. Bridgman, on the 19th of January, 1855.

FRANK BALDER, of the firm of Balder & Weber, Brewers, was born in Prussia, on the 17th of November, 1849. He came to America in 1870, first settling in Chicago, where he remained two years, thence to Napierville, Illinois, one year, after which he came to St. Cloud, but only remained five months; going to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and remaining five years. In 1878, he returned to St. Cloud, and became a partner with A. Thierse, in the brewery business, which partnership continued until the 1st of February, 1881, when his present partner, Nick J. Weber, purchased Mr. Thierse's interest. Mr. Balder was united in marriage with Miss Dora Eckel, on the 29th of November, 1875. Their children are, Clara M., Frank R., and William F.

JOHN BRICK, proprietor of the "People's Brewery," is a native of Waterloo county, Upper Canada, and was born on the 5th of January, 1851. Mr. Brick learned the brewing business in his youth, and has continued in it ever since. Coming to St. Cloud in 1876, he bought a half interest in this brewery, and at the end of two years, obtained possession of the other half. He manufactures about two thousand barrels annually.

CHARLES L. BOARDMAN was born at Royalston, Windsor county, Vermont, in August, 1827. When he was ten years old, the family removed to what is now Kenosha, Wisconsin, where his father was engaged in the hotel business until 1852. Then removed to Mackinaw Island, Michigan, and leased a hotel for a term of five years, but died the same fall, and Charles L. carried on the business until the expiration of the lease. In 1858, he came to Winona, Minnesota, and conducted a livery stable there for fourteen years. We next find him proprietor of the Exchange Hotel at St. Paul, thence to St. Peter, Minnesota, and McGregor, Iowa, carrying on a hotel in each of those places about two years. In the fall of 1880, he came to St. Cloud, and is the present popular and genial landlord of the West House. Mr. Boardman was married in the spring of 1854, to Miss Emma Winters, the marriage taking place in Racine, Wisconsin. Their children are Frank, Melissa, Kate, and Charles. Melissa is the wife of Walter Bissell, residing at Forde River, Michigan, and the others are unmarried.

PETER BRICK is a native of Ontario, Canada, and was born on the 20th of December, 1845. He received his early education in his native province, and afterwards graduated in the State University at Ann Arbor, Michigan. In 1871, he came to St. Cloud, was admitted to the Bar in June of the same year, and has practiced law in this city ever since. Mr. Brick was married on the 27th of November, 1872, to Miss Johanna Mellenovski. Their children are Peter E. L., Katy J., John, and Leo.

J. R. BENNETT, Jr. is the son of J. R. Bennett, a native of Otsego county, New York, who came to Minnesota in 1857, and to St. Cloud five years later. He was one of the pioneer merchants of this city, and still resides here. The subject of this sketch is a native of Brooklyn, New York, and came to this city with his father. After the usual preparatory studies, he entered upon a law course, and was admitted to practice in the courts of this State before he was twenty-one years of age, this having been accomplished by the passage of a special act of the State Legislature in 1877, by the recommendation of Judge McKelvey and the examining committee. Miss Minnie A. Bennett, his only sister, was born at Superior City, Wisconsin, and resides with her father.

O. F. CARVER is a native of Genesee county, New York, born in 1830. When eleven years old his parents removed to Rochester, where our subject grew to manhood. In 1850, he came to Racine, Wisconsin, and thence to Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1852, he went to Chicago, where he was engaged as book-keeper, and occasionally working on the "Chicago Tribune," until 1857, when he went to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and thence, after one year's stay, to St. Paul, where he was foreman on the "St. Paul Times." On the 6th of December, 1858, he opened the Pioneer Mercantile College, which was the first institution of the kind in St. Paul, conducting it for four seasons during the winter months, and occupying his time during the summer at his favorite occupation—book-keeping. In 1862, he was appointed by Captain Saunders, Chief of the Quartermaster's Department of the District, as citizen clerk in the Quartermaster's office at Fort Abercrombie, D. T. He remained until June, 1864, and was transferred to Fort Snelling, where he filled the same position until July, 1865, when he was returned to Fort Abercrombie; remained till the spring of 1869, and during the following summer was stationed at





Fort Wadsworth. In 1870, he was employed by T. C. McClure, of St. Cloud, and for four years had the management of his Lumber yard and Flouring mill at Sank Centre, and since then, has been book-keeper and acting cashier of McClure's Bank in St. Cloud. Mr. Carver married Miss Isabella Macbeth, in 1854. They have one son, John E.

ALONZO L. CRAMB was born in Woodstock county, Illinois, in 1854. In 1857, he came with his parents to St. Cloud, where he has resided most of the time since. At the age of nineteen years, he received the appointment of Deputy Auditor of Stearns county, which position he filled six and a half years. He then accepted his present position, that of manager of Cooper & Gray's lumber interests in this city. Mr. Cramb was married on the 18th of January, 1872, to Miss Cora P. Russell, of New York. They have four children; Roseoe L., Eleanor, Velma E., and Edward R. He is a prominent Freemason, being Master of the Lodge in St. Cloud.

HIRAM H. CLIFFORD is a native of Waterbury, Vermont, born on the 16th of July, 1854. When quite young, his parents removed to Linden, Stearns county, where Hiram grew to manhood. In the spring of 1876, he came to St. Cloud, and has since been employed in the Novelty Wood Works. Mr. Clifford was married on the 20th of March, 1879, to Miss Rosella E. Russell, of Brookway. The result of this union is one son, named John G.

LEWIS CLARK dates his birth in Worcester, Massachusetts, on the 4th of January, 1829. He was reared on a farm until eighteen years of age, when he went to Springfield, and learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for eight years. In the fall of 1855, he came to Watab, near the present site of Sank Rapids, and the following spring, built the first saw mill in the town, which he sold after running it one year. He then removed to St. Cloud, and after two years spent on a farm, engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, which he still continues. In 1867, he became a partner with C. F. Davis, the company conducting a general store at St. Cloud and a flouring mill at Clearwater. This partnership continued about five years, when a division was made, Mr. Davis taking the mill, and Mr. Clark the store. J. E. Wing then became a partner with Mr. Clark, but at the end of two years, a dissolution was effected, and Mr. Clark continues the business alone. He has

held the office of Town Supervisor, and been a member of the City Council for several terms. Miss Harriet A. Corbet, of St. Cloud, became the wife of Mr. Clark, on the 24th of March, 1859. They have one daughter, Frances H.

NEHEMIAH P. CLARKE, one of the prominent business men of this portion of the State, was born at Hubbardston, Worcester county, Massachusetts, on the 8th of April, 1836. At fourteen years of age, the subject of this sketch spent a short time in Kentucky; returned to New England; attended school one and a half years in Vermont; at seventeen, went to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he clerked in a hardware store, and at twenty (1856) came to St. Cloud. Here, for two or three years, he was engaged in the hardware and stove business, then changed to general merchandise and continued in that line for a number of years. Since then, Mr. Clark has been engaged in farming, lumbering, contracting, and staging. He has a stock farm of over two thousand acres in Le Sank township, on which is a creamery and cheese factory, besides a large and very choice selection of Short-horn and Jersey cattle, Hambletonian and Clydesdale horses, Berkshire hogs, Cotswold sheep, and other blooded stock. He has the largest and best herds of cattle in the State, and leads in the number of premiums taken at the State fairs. No more busy or energetic man than Mr. Clark lives in this part of the State, his great aim seeming to be to develop the resources of the country, and at the same time to place himself in independent circumstances. For office, and honors in that direction, he evidently cares nothing. He was Clerk of the District Court here at an early day, which was the only office of any consequence, so far as we can learn, that he ever held. On the 12th of September, 1860, Miss Caroline E. Field, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, became his wife. They have three children, Charlotte E., Mary A., and Ellen L.

F. H. DAM, manufacturer and contractor, was born at Enfield, Maine, in 1835. When quite young, his parents moved to Portland, where our subject remained till nineteen years of age, when he went to Calais and resided two years. In 1856, he came to St. Cloud and purchased some land, but did not settle here till 1863. Mr. Dam is one of the most active business men in the city, taking a deep interest in everything tending to the development of St. Cloud. For a number of years he was a member of the City Council, and also an active member of the Board of Educa-





tion. He was married in 1863, to Miss Emily Whitney.

PETER P. DURUPT, a native of France, was born in 1852, and came to America with his parents, while yet in infancy. They resided a few years in Pennsylvania, then removed to Sank Rapids, and thence to Crow Wing, where they lived four years. In 1863, the family came to St. Cloud, where the subject of our sketch has since resided. Mr. Durupt learned the blacksmith trade when a boy, and has conducted business on his own account since 1874.

C. F. DAVIS was born in Oxford county, Maine, on the 4th of September, 1819. He enjoyed limited common school privileges, but gave mathematics special attention, and became quite proficient and qualified for business life. His father died when he was seven years of age, after which he lived with a farmer, Mr. Swett, till twenty-two years of age. Then went to Connecticut and learned to manufacture gun-powder. After learning the trade, returned to Oxford county, Maine, formed a partnership with Mr. Swett for the manufacture of powder, and soon after, built a powder-mill at Camden, Maine. After running this mill a short time, concluded to quit the business, sold out, and bought a flouring-mill in the same State. After a few years, removed to Dunkirk, New York, and followed milling for several years; then, because of the ill-health of his wife, moved to Rockford, Illinois, where he spent a short time; thence to Milwaukee, and soon after, to Meeker county, Minnesota. Here he remained for a few years, then removed to St. Cloud, Stearns county, where he still resides. Immediately after coming to St. Cloud, built a mill at Clearwater, Wright county, and has followed milling to the present time. He represented Meeker county in the State Legislature in 1863. Mr. Davis was twice married; his first wife was Miss Aelsa M. Swett, of Oxford county, Maine, chosen in October, 1843, who died on the 1st of August, 1871. He married Mrs. Ellen M. Lambert, of this county, in October, 1872.

LOUIS A. EVANS, twenty-five years a resident of Minnesota, is a son of Levi Evans, who was a Lieutenant in the war of 1812, and was born in a place now called Conshohocken, near Philadelphia, on the 2d of November, 1822. The maiden name of his mother was Elizabeth Wills; she is still living, her home being in Philadelphia. His father died about 1826. Mr. Evan's forefather came over with

William Penn, and bought a township of land in Pennsylvania of him, on part of which land members of the family still live. Louis was educated in the graded schools of Philadelphia; there served an apprenticeship in a piano-forte manufactory, and was employed there, and in New York, until about 1851, when he started a manufactory for himself in Cincinnati. Two or three years later this was destroyed by fire, Mr. Evans losing about six thousand dollars; he then went to Clinton, Mississippi, and became connected with a music store, a branch of a New Orleans house, and sold and tuned pianos. In the fall of 1856, he came to St. Cloud and opened a grocery and provision store; the next spring became Clerk of the United States Land office, and soon afterwards Postmaster, and in 1861, was elected Clerk of the District Court and Judge of Probate. He was admitted to the Bar on the 27th of October, 1866. The office of Clerk he held twelve years, and that of Judge continuously to the present time, except in 1876 and 1877, when he was dealing in land and filling the office of City Justice. During the earlier days of his judgeship, he was editor and proprietor of the "St. Cloud Times" for several years. He was in the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1865, and in the Senate in 1867. In November, 1872, while he was Judge of Probate, his office and all the papers were destroyed, and, by an act of the Legislature, February, 1873, he was authorized to restore all the records. It was a hard task, but he finally accomplished it. He was the first Mayor of St. Cloud, and has held this office three or four terms. He was a member of the Council three years, and its President all the time, making a good executive officer. Mr. Evans was married in June, 1871, to Mrs. Elizabeth U. Libbey, of St. Cloud, daughter of Hon. John K. Damon, of Maine.

LORENZ ENDERLE is a native of Baden, Germany, born on the 25th of March, 1833. He came to America in 1853, and settled at Detroit, Michigan, where he learned the trade of millwright. In 1854, he came to Chicago, and was in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad Company until 1855, when he came to New Ulm, Minnesota, where he was engaged in contracting and building until 1863. He then went to St. Paul, but only remained one and a half years, coming to St. Cloud in 1864. Mr. Enderle at once erected a brewery, which he still conducts, manufacturing from ten to fifteen hundred



barrels of beer annually. Miss Creseence Trautmann became the wife of Mr. Enderle on the 1st of May, 1858. Their children are, Mary W., Louise M., Claria, Lorenz, Frank, Crescence, Katrina, Henry, Anna, and Gertrude.

NELSON B. FULMER is a native of Onondaga county, New York, born on the 19th of May, 1843. In 1865, he came to Olmsted county, Minnesota, where he remained one year, and thence to Alexandria, Douglas county, which was his home for nearly twelve years. While residing there, he studied law with Knut Nelson, was admitted to the Bar in 1873, and was afterwards County Attorney for Douglas county. In February, 1880, he came to St. Cloud, and has since held the position of General Agent of the McCormick Machine Company, for northern Minnesota. Mr. Fulmer was married on the 7th of March, 1866, to Miss Florence Hurlbut, of Waukesha, Wisconsin. They have four children, Ione, Charles S., Byron, and Florence.

CHRISTOPHER T. FAWCETT, superintendent of the Novelty Wood Works in St. Cloud, was born on the 27th of November, 1853. He is a son of John Fawcett, who came to St. Cloud with his family in 1859, but now resides in Melrose, having removed there a few years ago. The subject of our sketch was married on the 4th of December, 1872, to Miss Myra J. Fuller. Their children are, James E., Mabel L., and Edna M.

AMBROSE FREEMAN, one of the victims of the Sioux war, and the third in a family of five boys, was born near Culpepper Court House, Virginia, on the 25th of February, 1823. His parents, who were in comfortable circumstances, were of that hardy Puritan stock that colonized Virginia in the days of religious persecution, and were thus well fitted to rear a family in the cardinal virtues of religion and morality. Ambrose was generous to a fault, forgiving to his enemies, and kind and charitable to all. Physically, he inherited the strong, angular outlines of his family. He measured nearly six feet in height, being the smallest of the several brothers. His power of endurance was equalled only by his indomitable will, and he early developed a passion for hunting, which doubtless contributed to his bodily health. He became an expert in the use of his rifle, and was widely known as one of the best shots in the country, yet he never allowed his love for sport to demoralize him, or divert him from his duties. He left Virginia in 1847, and located in Edgar county, Illinois, where

for ten years he was engaged in farming, and plastering and bricklaying. The climate not being suited to his constitution, he came to Minnesota in 1857, taking a claim on the west side of the Mississippi, a few miles above St. Cloud, but in August his promising harvest was destroyed by grasshoppers, and he was obliged to leave his land and bring his family to St. Cloud, where he devoted himself to his trade for a number of years. When the news reached St. Cloud that the Indians were massacring the settlers near Paynesville, Mr. Freeman was down in a cellar, laying a wall, but at once came out, remarking that this was his last work until the trouble should be settled, and in behalf of the citizens started alone, with nothing but his horse and buggy and trusty rifle, to bring word of the fate of friends living in and near Paynesville. He found the reports to be only too true, and at once returned to St. Cloud to organize for the defense and relief of the settlers. At a meeting of citizens held the same night, Mr. Freeman stepped to the center of the room and called for twenty-five men to join him in an expedition against the Indians, every man in the room volunteered, and from them he selected twenty-five trusty men, who, by noon the next day, were on the march to bury the dead and relieve the wounded and distressed. After his return he received a commission from Gen. Mitchell to act as a recruiting officer, the company he enlisted, known as the "Northern Rangers," electing him as their Captain. They marched to the relief of Forest City and afterwards to Fort Abercrombie, bringing the women and children, who had sought shelter at the latter place, to St. Cloud.

On the 14th of October, 1862, Captain Freeman enlisted in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers. He was the first choice of his company for Captain, but waived the preference in favor of Oscar Taylor, of St. Cloud, and took the rank of First Lieutenant. He was with Gen. Sibley's command when it started across the plains in the summer of 1863, but on the 24th of July, while out hunting with a friend, they were suddenly surprised by a party of Indians on the war-path. Lieut. Freeman's rifle was unfortunately encumbered with a saddle of venison, which he had previously taken, and while endeavoring to get it free, an Indian rode up and shot him through with an arrow; he fell from his horse and expired almost instantly. His memory is cherished by his living family and a large circle of devoted friends.





LEVI S. GEER, a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 15th of September, 1838. In 1857, he came to Watab, Benton county, Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming for one year. He then came to St. Cloud, and resided on a farm until 1862, when he enlisted in the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. He was honorably discharged and returned to his farm at St. Cloud, which he conducted until 1873, and has since been engaged in business as a contractor and builder. Mr. Geer was married on the 27th of March, 1867, to Miss Martha A. Johnson. They have three children; Arthur S., Truman S., and Ivel V.

THOMAS J. GRAY was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, on the 22d of August, 1851. While yet an infant, the family removed to Woodstock, Wisconsin, where they resided till Thomas was fourteen years of age, when they came to Elysian, Le Sueur county, Minnesota, and thence, in 1869, to Waseca, Waseca county. In the winter of 1869, the subject of our sketch came to St. Cloud and commenced attendance at the Normal School, from which he graduated in the spring of 1872, and has since been engaged as a teacher in that institution. Mr. Gray was united in marriage with Miss Laura A. Freeman, of St. Cloud, on the 1st of January, 1873; Mrs. Gray is also a graduate of the St. Cloud Normal School. Their children are, Alma Mabel, Jessie May, Elsie Lou, and Freeman.

PETER R. GRIEBLER is a native of Prussia, born on the 5th of June, 1839. In 1849, he came to America with his parents and resided in Chicago six years, attending school and learning the trade of a tinsmith. In 1855, the family removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, at which place, and Chicago, Peter worked at his trade until 1867, when he came to St. Cloud, which has since been his residence. Since 1880, Mr. Griebler has conducted a hardware store in connection with his tin shop. He was married to Miss Albertina Rnf. They have ten children; their names are Rudolph, Edward, William, Joseph, Albertina, Caroline, Andrew, John, George, and Mathew.

OSCAR E. GARRISON, for over thirty years a resident of Minnesota, is a native of Fort Ann, Washington county, New York, born on the 21st of July, 1825. Before he was four years old, his father died, leaving his mother alone to care for the family, which consisted of five boys and three girls. In 1843, Oscar removed with the family, to

McHenry county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming until 1850, when he came to Minnesota and settled between St. Paul and St. Anthony, renting a house of Mr. Edward Murphy. Hearing of Lake Minnetonka, he explored its waters in the summer of 1851, in a skiff which he had built for that purpose, and being pleased with the surroundings, made a claim where the present village of Wayzata now stands. He at once commenced the erection of a house, which was the first built at any point on the lake, and moved his family thereto in January, 1852. In the summer of 1854, he surveyed and platted the village, and afterwards, in company with a Mr. Walker, of St. Anthony, built a steam saw mill, but never operated it. In 1856, he removed to Princeton, Mille Laes county, then just surveyed and platted for a city, built the first frame house at that place, and resided there four years, most of the time being United States Deputy Surveyor, and engaged in surveying government lands. In the summer of 1860, he moved his family to St. Cloud, and soon after located a claim near Lake Whipple, in Pope county, to which he removed in the fall of 1861, but was suddenly surprised and compelled to leave, by the murderous Sioux, in the summer of 1862. He was warned by a half breed of the work of destruction going on around him, and at once started for Sauk Centre with his wife and little son four years old, on foot. They traveled at night and hid by during the day time, arriving at Sauk Centre after a perilous march of several days, having barely escaped falling into the hands of the savages, on several occasions; at one time being so near as to see the forms of the Indians as they lay asleep on on the ground, and at another time, several warriors passed within twenty feet of them, while they were crouching in a corn field. Arriving at Sauk Centre, Mr. Garrison sent his family to St. Cloud, and joined the Northern Rangers, commanded by Capt. Freeman, marching to the relief of Fort Abercrombie. Passing near his home on the way, he found that it had been visited by the Indians soon after he left, and burned to the ground. Mr. Garrison afterwards enlisted in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, but was discharged on account of deafness, contracted through inflammation brought on by cold and exposure. He has since resided in St. Cloud, engaged in his profession, that of Civil Engineer. Mr. Garrison was married in the summer of 1846, to Miss M. J. Vannell-



styne, the ceremony taking place at Schodac, Rensselaer county, New York.

REV. SEVERIN GROSS, Pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, was born in Nennmarktl, Austria, in the year 1829. He early evinced a desire to enter the priesthood, and after the necessary preparation, entered the Seminary of Leibach, in Carniola, where he was ordained in 1853, and was assistant priest there for some years. Was then parish priest at Afriach one year, after which he was four years Vice-Director of the Seminary in Leibach, which is devoted exclusively to the education of priests. In 1874, he came to America, and at once entered the Abbey of St. Vincent, in Pennsylvania, as a novitiate of the Order of St. Benedict, and after remaining the usual time, one year, came to Minnesota. Entered the Abbey of St. John, Stearns county, and after two months, was appointed parish priest at St. Joseph, continuing there until taking charge of this congregation on the 9th of October, 1876.

WARREN E. HAMLIN is a son of Judge E. O. Hamlin, one of the prominent early settlers of this region, but now a resident of Pennsylvania. Warren was born at Sauk Rapids, Benton county, on the 25th of September, 1858. He is industriously employed at the jeweler's trade, in this city.

WILLIAM HETHERINGTON dates his birth on the St. Lawrence River, Canada, on the 17th of July, 1850. While yet a child, his parents came west and settled at Hastings, Minnesota, where William grew to manhood. In 1869, he went to St. Peter, where he learned the machinist's trade and resided until 1875, when he came to St. Cloud and has since been foreman of the Rosenberger Manufacturing Company's shops. Mr. Hetherington was united in marriage, on the 20th of May, 1878, to Miss Kate Henigan. They have two children, William and Rene.

J. P. HAMMEREL was born in Belgium, on the 15th of August, 1844. In 1857, he came to America with his parents, who settled on a farm in the town of St. Augusta, Stearns county. There Mr. Hammerel grew to manhood, engaged in farming pursuits. He is a man of more than ordinary attainments, which seem to be appreciated by his fellow-citizens; he has held the office of town Supervisor, and County Commissioner for several terms, and is at present, Chairman of that board, and Mayor of the city of St. Cloud. He came to this city in 1877, and has since been engaged in the sale of agricultural implements and sewing ma-

chines. Mr. Hammerel's wife was Miss Cathrina Weber. Of five children which they have had, but three are living; John P., Annie, and Edward M.

JOSIAH E. HAYWARD is a native of Mechanics' Falls, Maine, born on the 2d of February, 1826. He was a resident of his native town until 1856, being engaged in the lumber business after he grew to manhood. He then came west and located in the town of Brockway, Stearns county, where six years were spent on a farm in connection with the lumber business, which he also carried on during this time. In 1860, he purchased the Central House, in St. Cloud, which he occupied in 1862, and has ever since been the proprietor. Mr. Hayward also owned and conducted a flouring mill on the Sauk river, a few miles from St. Cloud, which was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1880. He was married in 1848, to Mary S. Gray. They have six children, Mary O., Hortense C., Elora E., Daniel S., Samuel L., William H., and Jennie O.

CLAYTON HINES was born in Chemung county, New York, on the 27th of March, 1855. In 1868, he came to St. Cloud, and early in life learned the painter's trade. In the spring of 1880, he engaged in business for himself, and as a house, sign, carriage, and ornamental painter, has given universal satisfaction to his patrons, whose numbers are a clear index that his ingenuity and skill are appreciated. Mr. Hines was married on the 31st of October, 1878, to Miss Jessie McIntosh. They have two children; Clara I. and Bertrand.

XAVER HONER, a native of Germany, was born in 1832. He came to America in 1852, and being by trade a painter, was engaged in that capacity in Philadelphia and other points in the South for about ten years. About 1862, he came to Minnesota, and assisted in the defense of the frontier during the Sioux outbreak. In 1864, came to St. Cloud, where he has since resided. He is a member of the firm of Brown, Hussey & Honer, house, sign, and carriage painters. Mr. Honer was married in 1871, to Miss Rosa Camerin. They have seven children; Xaver, John M., Otto P., Herman, Theobald P., Nenora A., and Anton.

ARTHUR HUSSEY, also a member of the last mentioned firm, is a native of St. Cloud, born on the 23d of October, 1857. At the age of eighteen years, he went to Minneapolis and commenced to learn the painter's trade, which he followed at different points until his return to St. Cloud in April, 1880. He became a partner in the above firm on its organization in the spring of 1881.





OSCAR O. HINES was born in Watertown, Jefferson county, New York. In 1868, he came to St. Cloud, and was engaged for eight months as foreman in the office of the "St. Cloud Times," and since then, has followed the occupation of painter. Mr. Hines was married in 1859, to Mrs. Clara Tubbs. They have three children; Frank W., Owen O., and Jessica M.

JOSEPH HILL is a native of Ireland, born on the 22d of May, 1820. In 1839, he came to America, residing a short time in Canada, and thence to New York State, where he resided until 1857, when he came to Minnesota and resided at St. Paul for a short time, but eventually went to Yellow Medicine, where he was engaged as a Photographer at the time of the Sioux outbreak in 1862. By the aid of friendly Indians, he escaped being a victim in that terrible massacre. In 1868, Mr. Hill established Photograph rooms in St. Cloud, which he has since conducted, assisted by his son Eugene S., who now has charge of the business at this point. Mr. Hill also has Photograph rooms at Brainerd, where he spends a portion of his time. He was married in July, 1851, to Miss Mary C. Hall, who died in 1860. Their only son is Eugene S., to whom reference is made above, born on the 24th of May, 1856. His present wife was Miss Lurissa G. Hall, their marriage taking place on the 16th of June, 1864.

ANDREW HENNEMAN was born in Lake county, Illinois, on the 23d of January, 1854. In 1866, the family removed to St. Cloud, where Andrew received his education and learned the harness maker's trade, which he has since followed. He formed his present business partnership with John C. Moos, in 1874. Mrs. Henneman's maiden name was Katherine Krenner. They have two children; Emil A. J. and Mattie A.

MICHAEL HANDERHAN, proprietor of the Washington House, is a native of Ireland, born on the 25th of December, 1842. He came to America in 1858, residing in Burlington, Vermont, one year and a half, during which time he worked in a machine shop. He then went to Washington county, New York, and was employed as a machinist three years, thence to Montreal, Canada, one year, and to Gorham, New Hampshire, three years. He came to St. Cloud in 1867, and until September, 1880, was in the employ of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad Company, but since then has been in the hotel business. Mr. Handerhan was united in marriage

with Miss Mary A. Clarity, of Portland, Maine, on the 30th of September, 1864. Their children are, Mary A., Edward A., Catharine, Michael G., John, Frederick A., and Nellie.

THOMAS JONES was born in Adams county, Ohio, on the 3d of December, 1828. When eighteen years of age, he went to Edgar county, Illinois, where he learned the blacksmith trade and remained ten years. In the spring of 1856, he came to St. Cloud and worked at farming for a few months, since which time he has assiduously devoted his time to the blacksmith business. Mr. Jones was married on the 18th of December, 1852, to Miss Mary J. Davis, of Illinois. They have six children; Emma C., Charles D., Frederick A., Nellie J., Jennie D., and Lula.

EDWARD K. JAKUES, dentist, is a native of Augusta, Maine, and was born on the 21st of November, 1841. He came with his parents to Hennepin county, Minnesota, in 1854, where he resided seven years. In 1861, he enlisted in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served four years, after which he returned to Minneapolis and attended school one year. Then went to Sank Centre, and was engaged in the real estate business about a year; thence, to Montreal, Canada, for a stay of two and a half years. Returning to Minneapolis, he studied dentistry about three years, after which he again went to Sank Centre, but after remaining a year, came to St. Cloud, and has since been diligently engaged in the practice of his profession.

WILLIAM F. KNOWLTON, a native of Farmington, Maine, was born in 1830. He came to St. Cloud in 1859, and engaged in the painting business, which has since been his occupation. Mr. Knowlton was with Gen. Sibley's expedition against the Indians in 1862. He was married, in October, 1862, to Miss Irena L. Carrick. They have six children, Francis W., Martha A., Freddie, Mand, Ada L., and ———.

[The following sketch of Professor Kiehle is reproduced verbatim as furnished by a friend.]

"DAVID LITCHARD KIEHLE, Principal of the St. Cloud Normal School, is a son of James Kiehle, tanner by trade, and Elizabeth Litchard, and was born in Dansville, Livingston county, New York, on the 7th of February, 1837. His paternal great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania, and his grandfather was a short time in the Continental army. Professor Kiehle



spent his youth in the graded schools of Dansville; began to teach at sixteen years of age, attended the State Normal School at Albany, and graduated in 1856; taught three years in the Canandaigua Academy, entered the junior class of Hamilton College, Clinton county, New York, in 1859, and graduated in 1861, one of the "honor" members of the class. While in college, in addition to the classical course, he connected himself with the laboratory and took a special course in chemistry. Professor Kiehle taught a graded school in Monroe, Michigan, during the year 1862; then took a full course of studies in the Union Theological Seminary; was graduated in 1865 and ordained to the Presbyterian ministry. While preparing for this work, he taught in the Polytechnic and Collegiate Institute in Brooklyn, in all nearly three years. In 1865, he came to Minnesota, organized a Presbyterian Church at Preston, Fillmore county, became its pastor and remained there ten years. During the last six of those years, he was County Superintendent of Schools, driven into that work on account of poor health. By riding on horseback from school to school, and from town to town, he gradually improved, and was able to fill the requirements of the office. During five of these years that he was superintendent, he preached once a day on Sunday, simply supplying the pulpit without doing pastoral work. The last three years that he was at Preston, he was one of the Directors of the State Normal School, and in 1875, was appointed by the board to take charge of the Normal School at St. Cloud, and has filled the position ever since. He has all the elements of a successful teacher,—thorough, yet firm of purpose, and the happy faculty of encouraging students in their intellectual work and making them self-reliant. He has the warmest esteem of the community as well as the students. While perfect master of every branch taught in the schools, Professor Kiehle's specialties are mental science, school economy, and Latin. The subject of education seems to be the one absorbing theme with him. His best thoughts, his time, his energies, are devoted to the questions: What is modern education, and how can it be made available and practical in the philosophy and theories of the day? He is a very "hard student" and a progressive man. On the 25th of July, 1864, Miss Mary Gilman, of Dansville, New York, was married to Professor Kiehle, and they have three children. Mrs Kiehle

is a lady of fine culture and thorough education, and in a very quiet way is doing some literary, and her share of Christian and benevolent work."

F. E. LEVANSELER, proprietor of Novelty Wood Works, was born in Boston, on the 11th of April, 1850. When about fourteen years old, he came to St. Cloud with his uncle and guardian, Mr. T. C. McClure; remained two and a half years and returned to Boston, where he attended school until 1871. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and was engaged for several months afterwards with J. B. Francis, Hydraulic Engineer, at Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1872, he came again to St. Cloud, and was engaged for a time in the United States Land Office, but, in 1876, erected his manufacturing establishment in which he is now doing a prosperous business.

## CHAPTER LXXXIX.

### M TO W.

W. B. MITCHELL, who for the last twenty-three years has either published or assisted in the publication of what is now the "St. Cloud Journal Press," having owned it since 1864, was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of May, 1843. He is a son of Henry Z. and Elizabeth N. Mitchell, the family coming to St. Cloud in 1857. The following year, he entered the office of the "St. Cloud Visiter," as a compositor, and has been connected with that paper in its various changes, to the present time. In 1865, he was appointed by President Lincoln, Receiver in the United States land office at this point, but was removed by President Johnson a little later. In 1877, he received the appointment of Resident Director in the Normal School Board, and was re-appointed in 1881. He was also re-appointed Receiver in the United States land office in 1878, by President Hayes, and still discharges the duties of that office. Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage with Miss Emily Whittlesey, on the 7th of December, 1871. She is a native of Marietta, Ohio, and a daughter of William A. Whittlesey, Member of Congress from that district, and a niece of Elisha Whittlesey, Solicitor of the Treasury department, under President Lincoln's administration. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have five children; Carrie, Mildred, Eleanor, Leslie, and June.





HENRY Z. MITCHELL, the father of the subject of the above brief notice, and one of the pioneers of St. Cloud, is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, born on the 30th of November, 1816. He lived at or near Harrisburg until about twenty years of age, when he removed to the western part of the State and engaged in mercantile pursuits. In the spring of 1857, he set out for St. Cloud, with his family and a stock of merchandise; he came all the way from Pittsburgh to St. Anthony by steamer, and transferring his goods to another steamer above the Falls, came direct to St. Cloud. He was appointed Postmaster during President Lincoln's administration, but has been in mercantile business most of the time since coming here. During the Indian outbreak he was on Governor Ramsey's staff with the rank of Brig. General, and had command of the military operations in this locality. Mr. Mitchell was married in 1841, to Miss Elizabeth N. Cannon, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The result of this union is five children; William, B., Mary C., now Mrs. C. H. Burbank, of St. Paul, James S., residing in Texas, Jennie S., now Mrs. Dr. Charles E. Walton, of Hamilton, Ohio, and Charles S., now studying law in this city.

C. F. MACDONALD, a resident of Minnesota since 1855, and the present State Senator from this district, dates his birth in Nova Scotia, on the 23d of September, 1813. When the subject of our sketch was about five years old, the family removed to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and thence, in 1855, to Belle Plaine, Minnesota, at which place, and Shakopee, he grew to manhood. In 1862, he enlisted in Company I, of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. At the close of his term of service he returned to Shakopee, but after one year's stay, went to St. Paul, where he was engaged on the "Pioneer Press" until January, 1875, when he came to St. Cloud, purchased the "St. Cloud Times," and has since filled the editorial chair in a very able manner. In 1876, Mr. Macdonald was elected to the Minnesota State Senate, and has been twice re-elected. He was married on the 27th of October, 1868, to Miss Julia E. Lord, daughter of Dr. Charles Lord, of Shakopee; she died on the 13th of January, 1876, leaving four children; Charles F., Julia, Mary A., and John A., the last two following their mother within seven months. Mr. Macdonald was again married, on the 19th of February, 1881, to Miss M. M. Campbell, of Litchfield.

CHARLES BOWMAN is a native of Burlington, Iowa, and came to St. Cloud in 1860. He has been chiefly engaged in farming and teaming until the 1st of March, 1881, when he removed to St. Cloud and commenced the erection of a livery stable on Washington Avenue, nearly opposite the West House. This is probably the finest livery stable in the city. It is 44x55 feet, and two stories high, besides the basement, which has stable accommodation for thirty horses.

A. B. HOLBERT is a native of Greeley, Iowa, and came to St. Cloud a few years ago. He is a partner with Mr. Bowman in the Livery business, besides doing a large business annually, in the importation of horses from Iowa to St. Cloud.

ALBERTIS MONTGOMERY was born at South Canton, St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 13th of January, 1833. In April, 1857, he came to Stearns county, and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, which adjoins the town site of Fair Haven. He worked at carpentering during the summer months, and teaching school in winter, until 1862, when he removed to St. Cloud and for two years was clerk in the store of N. P. Clarke. He then became a partner, and the firm was known as Clarke & Montgomery until 1871, when J. E. West purchased Mr. Clarke's interest. Montgomery & West conducted the business for two years, when Mr. Montgomery retired from the firm and engaged in contracting and building, the present Normal School building being one of his first contracts. In 1876, Mr. Montgomery, in company with N. P. Clarke and H. C. Waite, bought the Stave and Heading mill at Avon, and they also own another of the same kind in the township of Holding. Mr. Montgomery is the superintendent of those mills. He was married in 1854, to Miss Jennette L. Gale, who died in 1859, leaving one son, William C., who was born at Fair Haven, on the 28th of April, 1858; he is now a partner with his father in the manufacture of chairs, in this city. Mr. Montgomery was married again in 1860, to Miss Mary L. Lillie. They have four children, Frank H., Louise, Jennie May, and Francis.

ROBERT MOCKENHAUPT, a prominent dry goods merchant of this city, came to St. Cloud in May, 1860. Soon after his arrival, he entered St. John's College, in this county, where he remained three years, and in 1863, attended St. Francis Seminary, at Milwaukee, from which he graduated in the spring of 1864. He then enlisted and went with the army to Nashville, Tennessee, but was dis-



charged in October of the same year, and returned to St. Cloud. He was then engaged in teaching school at different points until May, 1872, and has since been engaged in the mercantile business.

GEORGE B. MARVIN, a native of Homer, Cortland county, New York, was born on the 25th of May, 1840. He came to St. Cloud in 1856, and has been engaged in the capacity of carpenter, most of the time since. For the last fourteen years he has been in the employ of F. H. Dam, and is at present, superintendent of his mill. Mr. Marvin was married on the 17th of September, 1862, to Miss Virginia Freeman. Their children are, May and Edgar.

SILAS MARLATT was born at Yates, Orleans county, New York, on the 8th of July, 1826. In 1836, the family removed to Michigan, where Silas grew up, receiving a liberal education. He studied medicine, at Lansing, Michigan, for three years, but on account of ill health, was obliged to give it up. In 1857, he came to St. Cloud, where he has since been engaged in the drug business. Mr. Marlatt was married on the 15th of May, 1862, to Miss Laura A. Gray. Their children are, John C. and Mary J.

SAMUEL MACKRELL is a native of Ireland, born in August, 1845. He came to America in 1867, and has resided in St. Cloud ever since. During the first three years he was engaged in the manufacture of lime, but has since been in the employ of the American Express Company; first as delivery clerk, two years, then messenger for three years, and has been the Company's agent at this point since 1875. Since February, 1880, Mr. Mackrell has also been engaged in the grocery business. He was married on the 31st of December, 1871, to Miss Mary Lynch. Their children are, John H. and Sarah.

JOHN C. MOOS dates his birth in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the 10th of June, 1849. He came to St. Cloud in 1865, and soon after, began to learn the harness-maker's trade. In 1874, he formed a partnership with Andrew Henneman, under the firm name of Moos & Henneman, harness manufacturers and dealers. Mr. Moos was married to Miss Mary Henneman. They have two children; Charles J. and Leo P.

ALBERT P. McDERMOTT, clerk in the freight department of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad Company, at St. Cloud, was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, on the 20th of June, 1858. When quite young he was employed as brakeman,

on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, where he continued for three years. He then engaged with the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad Company, but soon after, met with a severe accident in the loss of three fingers from the left hand while in the discharge of his duty as brakeman. After his recovery the company employed him in his present position.

MILTON P. NOEL dates his birth in Sciota county, Ohio, on the 9th of February, 1831. He was reared on a farm, and in 1849, went to Galesburg, Illinois, and entered the Galesburg University, graduating as civil engineer in 1853. After spending two years as railroad engineer he came to Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, and the following spring, (1856) came to St. Cloud. He was soon after elected County Surveyor of Stearns county, has filled that position three-fourths of the time since, and is the present incumbent. Mr. Noel has been twice married. First to Miss Sarah J. Abel, in 1854, who died in 1865. Of four children, the result of this marriage, but two are living; Milton and Sarah J. His present wife was Miss Emma Dickinson, to whom he was married in 1867. Their children are, William C., Emma E., Walter I., and Mary E.

FRANZ NAEGLI is a native of Switzerland, born in 1843. He came to America in 1867, and located at St. Cloud, where he has since been engaged at blacksmithing; since 1876, he has conducted a general jobbing and shoeing shop. Mr. Naegli was married in 1872, to Miss Lena Hodel. They have four children; Frank, Rosa, Herman, and Alexander.

JOHN H. NARE was born in the state of New York, on the 26th of January, 1838. When he was about ten years old, the family removed to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where John resided until 1869, and then came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he lived two years. In 1871, he came to St. Cloud, and has since followed his trade, that of carpenter and joiner. Mr. Nare is also proprietor of a restaurant, which he established in the fall of 1879. He was married on the 9th of June, 1868, to Miss Jennie Brown. They have one son, named George H.

BARNEY OVERBECK is a native of Germany, born in December, 1827. He came to America in 1842, and for three years resided at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and thence to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained until 1857, when he came to St. Cloud and engaged in the Hotel business,





with which he has ever since been identified, and is the oldest hotel man in the city. Mr. Overbeck's wife was Miss Gesina Derkis. They have three children; George H., Anna G., and Mary.

GEORGE H. OVERBECK, the present proprietor of the Minnesota House, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1852. He came to St. Cloud with the family in 1857, and has been raised in the hotel business. His well-filled house is a better criterion than the biographer's pen, of the genial nature and obliging disposition of this popular landlord. Mr. Overbeck was married, in June, 1877, to Miss Mary Lynch. They have two children; Mary and Elizabeth.

JOHN H. OWEN, a native of Cayuga county, New York, was born on the 25th of October, 1825. When quite young he moved with the family to Onondaga county, where he lived on a farm until twenty-seven years of age. He then removed to Cortland county, and was engaged in the carpenter business until 1855, when he came to St. Anthony, Minnesota. He then formed a partnership with J. H. Raymond, and has been connected with him in business ever since. For two years they conducted the business of contractors and builders at St. Anthony, and then came to St. Cloud, which has since been their residence, and where they conduct a door, sash, and blind factory. Mr. Owen was married on the 31st of December, 1851, to Miss Julia H. Smith, of Vermont. Their children are, Marian, Jennie, and Louise.

ALVIN ORTON was born in Jefferson county, New York, on the 5th of October, 1836. His life was spent in agricultural pursuits in his native State until 1856, when he came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in the town of Greenbush, Mille Lacs county. In 1875, he removed to Haven, Sherburne county, where he resided five years, and where he now owns two hundred and forty acres of good farming land in section seventeen. Mr. Orton purchased a residence in this city in the spring of 1880, and removed here for the purpose of obtaining better educational advantages for his growing family. He was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Farrington, on the 26th of May, 1866, who died in November, 1871, leaving two children, Mary A. and Samuel M. Mr. Orton's present wife was Miss Sarah J. Orton, to whom he was married in January, 1874.

SEBASTIAN RATHBUN is a native of Steuben county, New York, born in 1817. In 1843, he removed to Pontiac, Michigan, and after a five years stay, went

to Grand Rapids, where he was engaged in the manufacture of wagons and general blacksmithing, until his immigration to the Sauk Valley in 1870. He conducted a farm one year and then moved to St. Cloud, where he has since been busily engaged in carriage manufacturing and general blacksmithing. He was married in 1838, to Miss Mary A. Proper. They have had four children; Caroline, M., Edwin, who was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro', Demornington S., who is now in business with his father, and Addison. Demornington S. was born in Pontiac, Michigan, on the 13th of June, 1847; he was married to Isabella H. Proper. Their children are, Edwin, George, Addison, and Helen.

JOHN M. ROSENBERGER was born in Cumberland, Maryland, on the 15th of October, 1842. He came to St. Cloud in the spring of 1856, when St. Cloud was in its infancy, and since that time has been one of the active business men of the city. He was married in February, 1861, to Miss Anna Lieser, of St. Cloud. They have three children; Joseph B., Mary E., and Matilda.

HENRY J. ROSENBERGER is also a native of Cumberland, Maryland, born on the 18th of October, 1844. In the spring of 1856, he came with his father's family to St. Cloud, and soon after, engaged as clerk in a store, where he continued for a number of years. The result of this early business training is noticeable in the fact that Mr. Rosenberger, in conjunction with his father and brothers, has for the last twenty years been prominent among the enterprising business men of St. Cloud. Mr. Rosenberger was married on the 1st of October, 1874, to Miss Magdalena Schafer. Their children are, Elizabeth C., George L., Ida M., and Anna.

AMBROSE RAYMOND was born in New York, in 1840. When fifteen years old, he came to Winnebago county, Wisconsin, where he learned the trade of carriage-making and resided a number of years. In 1864, he came to St. Cloud and was in the employ of W. H. Weary until May, 1877, when he began business on his own account. Mr. Raymond was united in marriage with Miss Isabel J. Baird, in 1870. Their children are, Helen N., Della, Mabel, and Lomie.

WILLIAM L. ROSENBERGER was born in Cumberland, Maryland, in 1853. When quite young, he came with his parents to St. Cloud, which has since been his place of residence. During his minority, while not attending school, he was engaged as a salesman, and at the age of twenty-one years,



he established a book and stationery store, in which business he still continues. He is also one of the proprietors of "Der Nordstern," a German newspaper published in this City. Mr. Rosenberger was married on the 25th of September, 1877, to Miss Barbara Schafer, of St. Cloud. They have two children; Louis B. and Edward G.

ALEXANDER F. ROBERTSON, a native of Pictou county, Nova Scotia, was born in 1844. He came to St. Cloud on the 15th of November, 1865, spent the first winter in the pineries, and afterwards worked in a furniture shop. In the fall of 1866, he went to work at the jewelry business, in which he has continued till the present time. After a three years stay in St. Cloud, he went to San Francisco, California, and remained until 1871, when he returned to St. Cloud where he has since resided. In 1873, he engaged in business on his own account, and has had his share of the trade in his line. In May, 1877, Mr. Robertson was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Robertson. They have two children; Ada F. and Reuben W.

JOHN ROGERS dates his birth in Yates county, New York, on the 22d of May, 1831. In 1857, he came to St. Anthony, and was employed in the mills at that place until the spring of 1859, when he piloted the first stage through from St. Cloud to Breckenridge. In July of the same year, he made a claim at Evansville, Douglas county, where he kept the stage station until driven out by the Indians in 1862. In 1863, he removed his family to St. Cloud, and has since been engaged in the Livery business. Mr. Rogers was married in 1851, to Miss Sarah Moore. Their children are, George Clayton, Edward, Minnie, Charles, Nellie, and Carrie B.

EBENEZER ROBERTSON was born in Nova Scotia, on the 16th of March, 1836. In 1853, he went to New Brunswick, and was one year in the lumber business; thence to Maine, where he was engaged in lumber and hotel business until 1861. The next five years were spent in the Provinces, engaged in mining. In 1866, he came to St. Cloud and followed various occupations until 1878, when he established himself in the grocery business, which he still continues. He was Chief of Police of St. Cloud for a time, and has also held the office of Deputy Sheriff. Mr. Robertson was married in 1871, to Miss Belinda Pickit, of Hermon, New York. They have one child, Winifred C.

JAMES W. ROBERTSON dates his birth in Nova Scotia, in 1830. He came to St. Anthony in 1853,

and worked at his trade, that of blacksmith, until 1860, when he removed to St. Cloud, where he has since successfully plied his vocation. He did the blacksmith work for the Minnesota Stage Company while their route lay through St. Cloud. Mr. Robertson was married in 1855, to Miss Ann Langdon. They have four children; Thomas D., Flora C., James A., and Viola.

FREDERICK RAYMOND was born in Lower Canada, on the 16th of June, 1830. When nine years of age, he went with his parents to Aroostook county, Maine, where he remained until September, 1867, when he came to St. Cloud. Mr. Raymond has been engaged at various occupations since coming here, but has devoted the greater portion of his time to his trade, that of boat builder. He was married on the 14th of June, 1859, to Miss Mary Michael. They have eight children, whose names are Anthony, Gilbert, Edward, Sophia, Frederick, George, Abbie, and Young.

JOHN H. RAYMOND is a native of Cincinnati, Cortland county, New York, born on the 28th of January, 1834. In 1855, he came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, and has since that time sustained a business partnership with John H. Owen, of this city. After remaining in St. Anthony two years, he came to St. Cloud, which has since been his residence. During the Sioux outbreak of 1862, Mr. Raymond accompanied Gen. Sibley in his campaign against the Indians. He was married on the 4th of July, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth A. Smith, of his native town. They have one daughter, named Mary.

RUPERT SEIDENBUSH, Bishop and Vicar-apostolic of Northern Minnesota, is a native of Munich, Bavaria, and was born on the 13th of October, 1830. He spent his younger years in obtaining a classical and philosophical education, and in the autumn of 1850, came to America, and entered immediately upon the study of theology at St. Vincent, Pennsylvania, where he was ordained priest on the 22d of June, 1853. He officiated there for two years; the same length of time at St. Mary's, in the same State; five years at Newark, New Jersey; one year at Butler, Pennsylvania, and in June, 1863, returned to St. Vincent, and served four years as Prior of St. Benedict. In 1867, he became Abbot of St. John's College, Stearns county, Minnesota, twelve miles northwest of St. Cloud, and in 1875, became Bishop and Vicar-apostolic of Northern Minnesota, which position he now holds,





with his residence at St. Cloud. His diocese embraces all Northern Minnesota to the British dominions, and Northwestern Dakota, as far west as the Missouri river. It is an immense field for one man to supervise, and the Bishop travels upwards of four thousand miles annually.

ROBERT L. SCOTT, a native of Ireland, came to America in 1848, and settled at Terre Haute, Indiana, where he was engaged in the carriage business for a number of years. In 1862, he enlisted, and had charge of the army wagon shop until he was taken prisoner at Holly Springs, Mississippi, in December, 1863. He was soon after paroled, and went with the Second Minnesota Battery, as sutler, till the war closed. He then conducted a general store at East Tennessee, until 1866, when he came to St. Cloud, and in company with H. Tilton, run the Stearns House for about one year. He has since been engaged in the manufacture of wagons, and general blacksmithing. Mr. Scott was married in 1865, to Annie B. Gaylord, who died in 1869. The fruit of this union was one child, who died when thirteen months old. His present wife was Mary J. Keough, with whom he was united in marriage in 1878. They have two children; Florence J. and Mabel.

DAVID H. SPICER was born at Homer, New York, in 1830. He came to St. Cloud in the spring of 1855, was employed at carpenter work the first summer, and in the fall, went to Brockway township and located a claim of three hundred and twenty acres, under the town site pre-emption law, and together with Henry C. Waite, surveyed and platted the town of Brockway. Mr. Spicer also pre-empted a farm near the town site, on which he lived seven years. In 1862, he disposed of his interests in Stearns county and removed to Onondaga county, New York, where he was engaged in the manufacture of cheese boxes, to which he added, after a time, the manufacture of cheese. In 1865, he returned to St. Cloud, and has ever since been engaged in the furniture business. Mr. Spicer claims that his marriage was the first to be solemnized in Stearns county. He was married on the 23d of December, 1855, to Miss Mary J. Marvin, of Kentucky. The result of this union is two children; Anna E., now the wife of Rev. W. E. Stanley, pastor of the Baptist church at Troy, Ohio, and Clinton G., still at home.

E. B. STRONG, for twenty-one years a resident of St. Cloud, was born in Onondaga county, New

York, on the 22d of July, 1814. He received a common school and academic education, and assisted in his father's store until twenty-one years of age, when he went to Logansport, Cass county, Indiana, and engaged in mercantile business. He remained in that city twenty-one years, serving the county as Treasurer a portion of the time. He then came north and was located at Superior City, on Lake Superior, for three years, where he kept a general store. In 1860, Mr. Strong came to St. Cloud and has resided here ever since. He was first engaged in mercantile business, but since the 1st of January, 1871, has held the office of Clerk of the District Court. Mr. Strong was married in Onondaga county, New York, in April, 1836, to Miss Mary Warren, a native of New York City, of English extraction. They have had six children, only two of whom are living; Ella, the wife of Judge E. O. Hamlin, an old resident of St. Cloud, but now living in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, and Clara, residing at home.

DOLSON B. SEARLE, a leading attorney in Stearns county, is a son of Almon D. and Jane Searle, and was born at Allegany, Allegany county, New York, on the 4th of June, 1841. On the breaking out of the civil war in 1861, he enlisted in Company I, of the Sixty-fourth New York Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battle of Bull Run, siege of Yorktown, all the battles before Richmond under General McClellan, the Seven Days' fight, and Fair Oaks. In June, 1863, he was detached from field duty by order of the Secretary of War Stanton. Received a civil appointment in the war department, where he had charge of an important branch in the Adjutant-general's office, and held that position for several years. Resigned to enter the legal profession, and graduated at Columbia Law College, in the city of Washington. Mr. Searle came to St. Cloud in May, 1871, and soon after entered the law office of Judge E. O. Hamlin, became his partner in January, 1872, and in November of the following year, the Judge removed to Pennsylvania, and Mr. Searle has since been alone in the practice. He applies himself closely to his profession; is well read, and being thoroughly posted on all points of law, and very clear, he makes an excellent counselor.

GEORGE S. SPENCER, a native of Corning Steuben county, New York, was born on the 13th of March, 1847. His father was a lawyer, and with him George studied a few years, afterwards attend-



ing the University of Albany, at Albany, New York. On account of ill-health he was compelled to abandon the legal profession, and in 1870, came to St. Cloud, where he has since been engaged in the drug business. Mr. Spencer was a soldier in the civil war, enlisting in February, 1864, in the Tenth New York Cavalry, and serving till the war closed. He was married in 1876, to Miss Martha McCumber, of Preble, Cortland county, New York, who died on the 31st of January, 1880, leaving one child, named George T.

PETER SCHMITT dates his birth in Luxemburg, Germany, on the 21st of February, 1831. He came to America in 1854, and after a three months stay in Buffalo, New York, went to Canada, where he lived about two years. He then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and remained four years, working at his trade, that of house carpenter. In 1860, he came to Luxemburg, Stearns county, and was farming one year, after which, he came to St. Cloud, and for the next five or six years, worked in a plow shop, but has worked as carpenter and builder most of the time since. Mr. Schmit was united in marriage with Miss Katherine Thomas, in November, 1860. Their children are, Peter, Julius, and Mary.

JOHN SCHWARTZ was born in Germany, on the 18th of December, 1822. He came to America in 1856, and after remaining one year in St. Paul, came to St. Cloud, where he has ever since been engaged in the manufacture and sale of harness. Mr. Schwartz claims this to have been the first harness shop northwest of Minneapolis. He was married in 1861, to Miss Barbara Streitz. Their children are, Anna, John, Elizabeth, William, Joseph, Mary, and Stephen.

C. SCHULTEN is a native of Munster, Westphalia, Prussia, and was born on the 4th of April, 1831. He first visited the shores of America in 1849, and during the next three years, visited various countries, among others, the West Indies, Central America, Sandwich Islands, and the Southern States of America, arriving in St. Louis, in 1853, and thence, after one year's stay, to Chicago. In the spring of 1855, he purchased a sloop, and loading her with merchandise, traded on Lake Michigan during that summer, establishing trading posts at West Harbor and Pottowattomie Island. But the ill-fortune that constantly threatens those, "who go down to the sea in ships," overtook him the same fall; his sloop was wrecked on St. Martin's Island, and one of his stores rob-

bed by the Beaver Island Mormons. He was compelled, on account of the ice, to remain on St. Martin's Island all winter, but the following spring he went to Green Bay, purchased a schooner and another stock of goods, opened a store at Door Bluff and traded among the islands that summer. In June, 1857, he established a fish market at Kenosha, Wisconsin, using his schooner to trade for fish among the islands. On one of those trips, the vessel was frozen in, and Mr. Schulten was obliged to walk back to Kenosha, a distance of nearly two hundred miles. The next spring he went to Kansas and the Rocky Mountains on a trading and hunting trip, but returned in the winter and bought a fishing station, which was destroyed by the ice, soon after. In the winter of 1860, he had a contract for carrying the mail, and afterwards formed a partnership with a Washinton Harbor firm, establishing a trading post at Garden Town, Sag Harbor, Michigan, where he made extensive improvements and opened a farm. In 1864, he disposed of his interest in the business at that point, and after a year spent in Milwaukee, came to St. Cloud and opened a general store, which he conducted until 1867, but has since been engaged in the Drug business.

L. W. STRATTON, one of the pioneers of Minnesota, was born in Bradford, Merrimac county, New Hampshire, on the 25th of April, 1816. He was reared to farming pursuits until eighteen years of age, and was engaged in mill building for the next three years, going to St. Louis, Missouri, in October, 1837. At that time, New Brunswick, New Jersey, was the western terminus of the railroad out of New York City, and Columbia, Pennsylvania, the terminus of the road west from Philadelphia. He was employed for some time on a steam saw mill at Alton, Illinois, but the following winter, engaged with the St. Croix Lumber Company, and came with them on the first steamer that ever ascended the St. Croix River, to St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, arriving on the 16th of July, 1838, and building for the Company the first mill at that place. He made the first claim at Marine Mills, Minnesota, on the 12th of December, of the same year, and put up twenty-five cords of wood for the use of steamboats, the first wood corded for that purpose above Prairie du Chien. He soon after went to Jersey county, Illinois, and was engaged in the manufacture of farm machinery for a number of years, but returned to Minnesota and settled in St. Anthony, in June, 1852, there being





but one dwelling house in Minneapolis on the west side of the river at that time. In 1853, he built the first Government bridge across Rum river, at Anoka, and in 1854, placed the first sailboat on Lake Minnetonka. He continued to reside in St. Anthony and Minneapolis until 1871, when he removed to Excelsior, Hennepin county, where he has since been engaged in the culture of grapes and grape vines. Mr. Stratton was married in Macomb county, Illinois, on the 28th of June, 1842, to Miss Perniecy Pelham. They are the parents of three sons and five daughters; two of the sons are printers, and one is a farmer; the daughters have all acquired a good education, and have each spent several years at teaching school.

W. F. STREET, is a native of Council Bluffs, Iowa. After receiving the usual preparatory course, he entered the Nebraska State University, and graduated in 1872. Was admitted to the Bar of Minnesota, at St. Paul, in 1879, and has since practiced law in St. Cloud. Mr. Street's residence is in Sank Rapids, where he also has an office.

DR. MOODY C. TOLMAN, (deceased) a graduate of Dartmouth College, and one of the first settlers of Stearns county, was born in Vermont, in 1824. In 1855, he came to Stearns county, and located in the town of Brockway, being the first physician in the town.\* In 1859, the family removed to Anoka, which was their residence until 1865. In 1861, Dr. Tolman enlisted as surgeon, in the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served during the war; he accompanied Sherman in his famous "March to the Sea." After his return, he removed his family to St. Cloud, and practiced medicine for three years, after which he opened a drug store, and conducted it until his death, which occurred on the 2d of March, 1873. Mrs. Tolman's maiden name was Sarah E. Dwinall, a native of Mechanics Falls, Maine. Their children are, Minnie C., Henry E., and Frank. Mr. Tolman was a member of the State Legislature in 1859-60; for a number of years President of the Board of Education, and also County Superintendent of Schools for several years. At the time of his death, he was resident Director of the Normal School.

LEONARD THIELMAN was born in Prussia, on the 15th of January, 1844. In 1858, he came to America, and resided until 1861, at Erie, New York. He then enlisted in the Forty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, in which he served one year, and afterwards, two years in the Navy. In 1865,

he came to St. Cloud and was employed for the next five years, at farming and clerking in a store. In 1870, he commenced the manufacture and sale of pumps, and also engaged in the drive-well business. Since January, 1881, he has been a member of the firm of Griebler & Thielman, hardware merchants of this city. Mr. Thielman was married on the 1st of May, 1867, to Miss Mary Ruf. They have eight children; Frank J., William, Peter, Rudolph, George, Carrie M., John, and Henry.

B. F. TOZIER, a native of Penobscot county, Maine, was born on the 24th of February, 1839. He came to St. Cloud in 1872, and has since been employed in the various mills in this city. Mr. Tozier was engineer in Raymond & Owen's manufactory for five years, and now holds the same position in F. H. Dam's mill. He was married to Mrs. Mary H. Nodin, in July, 1866.

FRANCIS TALCOTT dates his birth, in Glastonbury, Connecticut, on the 4th of March, 1822. He came to St. Cloud in May, 1856, and after spending the first summer on a farm, engaged in the jewelry business at Lower Town, where he continued to trade for ten years, after which he removed to the business center of the city, where he enjoys a fair share of the public patronage. Miss Rhoda M. Dewey, of Malone, New York, became the wife of Mr. Talcott, on the 14th of November, 1871.

HENRY CHESTER WAITE, one of the pioneers and leading business men of Stearns county, is a native of Rensselaerville, Albany county, New York, and was born on the 30th of June, 1830. When he was four or five years old, his parents moved to Chautauqua county, in the western part of the State, halting two or three years in the town of Pomfret, and then settling on a farm in the town of Gerry, where Henry had some experience in solid work. He prepared for college at Fredonia and Jamestown, entered the junior class of Union College, Schenectady, in 1849, and graduated two years later; read law with Emory F. Warren, of Sinclairville, and was admitted to the Bar at a term of court held at Angelica, Allegany county, in the summer of 1853. In the autumn of the same year, Mr. Waite located at Madison, Wisconsin, forming a partnership in the law practice with Alexander Botkin, since deceased, and Thomas Hood, the firm being Botkin, Hood, and Waite. In the spring of 1855, while the Winnebago Indians were vacating this part of the Mississippi valley, Mr. Waite settled at St. Cloud, being the first attorney to open an office here. After



practicing several years, he opened a private bank, in company with T. C. McClure, and managed it till 1865, when he was appointed Register of the land office, a position which he held for four years. For the last dozen years, Mr. Waite has been in miscellaneous business—farming, milling, merchandising, mining, etc. He has a farm of six hundred and forty acres near town, a flouring mill at Cold Spring City, an interest in several stove factories, and is a partner in the Black Hills Mining and Quartz Mill Company, Dakota Territory. He has seen a good deal of frontier life, is an energetic and very industrious man, has one of the kindest of hearts, and is an invaluable neighbor, esteemed by everybody for his generous deeds. Mr. Waite was a member of the constitutional convention in 1857, and since Minnesota became a State, has served one session in the House and two in the Senate. He is a diligent man, whether working for himself or for the State, and having good judgment, as well as practical application, he made a valuable legislator. In the Senate, he was Chairman of the railroad and printing committees, and on the judiciary committee. The wife of Mr. Waite was Mrs. Maria D. Paige, daughter of Dr. Shepherd Clarke, of Hubbardston, Worcester county, Massachusetts, their marriage occurring on the 1st of January, 1860. They have two sons; John Chester and Clarke.

HON. CHARLES A. GILMAN, Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, and for many years prominently identified with the political history of the State, is a lineal descendant of Edward Gilman, who came from England in 1638, and whose descendants afterward figured conspicuously in the chronicles of New England. Charles Andrew, the subject of this sketch, is a son of Charles and Eliza (Page) Gilman, his birth occurring at Gilmantown, New Hampshire, February 9th, 1833. His youth was passed on his father's farm, securing in the meantime such educational advantages as were offered in the common schools, afterwards receiving an academic education in his native town, and was employed in teaching several terms. In 1855, he came to Minnesota, and located at Sauk Rapids, where he remained about six years, during which time he served one term as Register of Deeds, and one as Auditor of Benton county. In 1861, he was appointed by President Lincoln, to the office of Receiver of the land office at St. Cloud, and removed to that place, which has since been his home. His residence is one of the finest in the Northwest, commanding a de-

lightful view of the Mississippi, on the bank of which it is situated. After four years in the land office, he spent one or two years in lumbering, then returned to the office under appointment by President Johnson, but resigned at the end of one year, and engaged in extensive explorations, surveys, and land sales, in which he has spent many years. In 1869, he was appointed Register of the land office, but resigned near the close of the next year, and in 1875, commenced the study of law. In December, 1876, he was admitted to the Bar, and at the notable impeachment trial of Judge Sherman Page, was employed as one of the managers for the prosecution. He was a member of the State Senate in 1868-69, his district then comprising over half the area of the State, also a member of the lower house in 1875-78, and re-elected in November, 1878, being elected Speaker at the organization of the legislature in January, 1879. In 1879, he was elected Lieutenant Governor, which position he still holds. In the session of 1877, he was instrumental in prosecuting the measures leading to the final building of the railroad from Sauk Rapids to Brainerd, of which line he is one of the Directors.

On the 1st of January, 1857, Mr. Gilman was united in marriage with Miss Hester Cronk, of Sauk Rapids, from which union several children have been born, a number of whom have died.

J. E. WEST, one of St. Cloud's pioneers, and Postmaster since 1869, is a native of Greene county, Ohio, born in 1833. He came to St. Cloud in 1855, and was engaged in the lumber business a short time, but the following spring, established a general store, which he discontinued in 1857. He then manufactured lime and brick, and was also engaged in building for several years. In 1862, he enlisted in Company I, of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served three years; he was mustered in as Sergeant, but promoted to Lieutenant, and held a Captain's commission at the time of his discharge. Mr. West returned to St. Cloud and has ever since been closely identified with the progressive element of the city.

JAMES E. WING was born in Kennebec county, Maine, on the 15th of May, 1832. He came west in 1863, and located at Brockway, Stearns county, where he was engaged in farming for three years. He then removed his family to St. Cloud, but went himself to Otter Tail county, where he was engaged in lumber business one year. He then





returned to St. Cloud, which has since been his residence. Mr. Wing is quite extensively engaged in the sale of agricultural implements and buying wheat. He was married on the 17th of November, 1855, to Miss Susan Carey, of Belfast, Maine. They have two children; Theodore C. and Joseph W.

JOHN A. WARNEK is a native of Germany, born in 1850. He came to America in 1870, and resided at Cincinnati one year, thence to Louisville, Kentucky, and in March, 1872, came to St. Cloud, and for the next two years, was engaged as teacher in the schools of Stearns county. Since 1874, he has been engaged in the sale of agricultural implements. Mr. Warnken was married on the 15th of June, 1873 to Miss Mary Schiefer, who died in September, 1877, leaving three children; William, Gertrude, and Henry. He was married again on the 19th of August, 1878, to Lizzie Boos. They have one child named Mary.

NICHOLAS WEBER dates his birth in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1845. In 1856, he came to America with his parents, who located in St. Augusta, Stearns county, where Nicholas grew to manhood, engaged in farming pursuits, which he followed until 1877, when he removed to St. Cloud. Mr. Weber is now engaged in the sale of agricultural implements. He was married on the 28th of November, 1872, to Miss Mary Marthaler. Of five children which they have had, four are living; Emma M., Mary A., Elizabeth K., and Joseph P.

WARREN W. WRIGHT, station agent of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad Company, in St. Cloud, is a native of Franklin county, New York, born on the 11th of July, 1823. When eleven years of age, he went to sea, and followed the profession for upwards of twenty years, successively filling every position, from cabin-boy to Captain. In 1856, he came to Wabasha county, Minnesota, and was engaged at farming and merchandising until 1864, when he came to Anoka as station agent for the railroad company, and has since been in their employ. He has been station agent at Anoka, Elk River, Big Lake, and St. Cloud, coming to the latter place in 1867. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ismon, on the 18th of September, 1850. They have seven children; Mattie E., now Mrs. J. F. Stevenson, of St. Cloud; Mollie, Edward H., who is ticket agent and telegraph operator at St. Cloud, which position he has held about four years. He was born in Plainview, Wabasha county, Minne-

sota, on the 24th of September, 1861; Jennie, now Mrs. F. E. Hamlin, of St. Cloud; Susie B., Charles P., and Warren W.

NICK. J. WEBER, one of the proprietors of the City Brewery, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, on the 29th of September, 1852. When quite young, he came to America with his parents, and was reared on a farm in St. Augusta, Stearns county. In 1878, came to St. Cloud township, and was engaged in farming until February, 1881, when he bought a half interest in the brewery. Mr. Weber was married on the 22d of January, 1878, to Miss Margaret Bisineus, of St. Cloud. Their children are, William S. and John P.

JOHN L. WILSON, one of the early pioneers, and the proprietor of the site of St. Cloud, was born at Columbia, Washington county, Maine, on the 24th of February, 1820. When about five years old, the family moved to what is now Bradley, twelve miles above Bangor, on the Penobscot river, where the subject of this sketch attended school, the teacher being Mrs. Gardner, now of Grove Lake, Stearns county. In 1830, he removed with the family, to New Jersey, and when twelve years old, went to New York City, and was employed in the printing office of Goodale, Barker & Nyles, the great temperance journal publishers. He then was clerk in a store for a time, after which he was engaged with the wholesale hat, cap, and fur house of E. C. Boughton & Co., thence in the employ of William R. Prince, the great real estate speculator of Flushing, Long Island, after which he spent a number of years in the exchange and brokerage business. In 1840, he came west and located at St. Charles, Illinois, and for eleven years followed the occupation of contractor and builder in that vicinity. In 1851, he came to Minnesota under a contract with Mr. Taylor, the partner of Franklin Steele, to put in seven saw mills at the Falls of St. Anthony, but the proprietors disagreed and the mills were not built.

In December, 1852, he came to Sauk Rapids and commenced work on a saw mill for the "Minnesota Outfit," and also built a house there for the land company. Some time after, he went to Little Falls and completed a saw mill which had been previously commenced, and also built the first mill in Stearns county, a saw mill at St. Augusta. Mr. Wilson came to this place in 1853, bought the present site of St. Cloud from a squatter, and has resided here ever since. He was a Representative in the Territorial Legislature of 1855-56 and '57,



and in the State Legislature of 1870. He was the first President of the city council in St. Cloud, and has been City Justice and Alderman, and held a number of other local offices; he was also Judge of Probate of Benton county in 1853. Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Cordelia Morgan, daughter of Joshua Morgan, founder of the city of Buffalo, New York, in May, 1847; she died in November, 1852, leaving one son, who also died the following January. He was married again on the 13th of November, 1855, to Mrs. Harriet N. Corbet. Their children are, Frederick, Grace P., Nettie E., and Victor.

CHARLES WEBER, deceased, one of the first Homeopathic practitioners west of Minneapolis, was born in Germany on the 12th of February, 1829. He came to America in 1847, and located at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, which was his home for seven years. While there he began the study of medicine, and spent two years and a half at St. Vincent College, afterwards graduating at the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago. About 1855, he went to Burlington, Iowa, and was engaged in the drug business there until 1862, when he came to St. Cloud, and carried on a drug store here, besides having an extensive practice, until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1881. The Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Schimmer, of Pittsburg. They had four children; Frederick L., Charles M., Francis, and Anna. The two sons are promising young men, aged respectively twenty-two and twenty years. They have been engaged in teaching school for a number of years in this and adjoining counties.

M. WETZEL was born in Germany on the 6th of January, 1836. He came to America in 1864, and after working a year at the cooper's trade in Chicago, came to St. Cloud, remained three years and went to Minneapolis, but returned to St. Cloud in 1868, and has resided here ever since. Mr. Wetzel has followed the occupation of cooper ever since coming to St. Cloud.

## ALBANY.

### CHAPTER XC.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—VILLAGE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Albany is situated in the northeast center of

the county, and embraces township 125 north, range 31 west. It is chiefly covered with timber of the different varieties of oak, with some small maple and poplar.

There are a number of good hay meadows in the town, making it quite desirable for grazing purposes. The settlers are chiefly Germans and Austrians, the greater portion of whom have but recently begun to open their farms.

There were no evidences of occupancy or improvement here when John Schwinghammer, Jr. came in search of a home in 1862. After exploring the country and selecting a location, Mr. Schwinghammer returned to his family, but came with his father the following summer, and made claims on sections twenty-two and twenty-three. The son still resides on the old claim, but his father died in 1867, which was the first death in the town. Prominent among those who followed the same year were, Isidore Obermiller, Paul Obermiller, and John Platz, and during the next three or four years, John and Jacob Christen, Peter Dirkes, George Leissle, Simon Groetch, and others made claims in the same locality.

This town was a part of Avon until 1868, when a separate organization was effected. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which, 1534 are under cultivation. The population, according to the last census, was 580.

The officers elected at the first general town meeting were: Supervisors, John Schwinghammer, Chairman, Isidore Obermiller, and John Hauser; Justice of the Peace, Joseph Schwinghammer; and Treasurer and Clerk, Frederic Weitzel.

VILLAGE.—The St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba railroad crosses near the center of the town in a westerly direction. Albany station was established on the south line of section fifteen, where a thriving little village has sprung into existence. There are four general stores, one hotel, one harness shop, one shoe store, one blacksmith shop, one grist mill, besides a number of saloons and smaller business places.

There is also a Catholic church in the village, at which the people from the whole township assemble for worship.

The township is divided into two school districts. Number fifty-nine was the first organized, in 1868, and the first school taught by Anthony Fralek.

The first building was erected on section twenty-two, but after the formation of a new dis-





trict, the present neat frame school-house in the village was built.

District number one hundred and eleven was organized in 1877, being detached from district fifty-nine.

The old school-house on section twenty-two is still in use by this district.

According to the agricultural report for 1880, the products of Albany were as follows: wheat, 19,982 bushels; oats, 9,236 bushels; corn, 2,174 bushels; barley, 449 bushels; rye, 84 bushels; potatoes, 2,599 bushels; wild hay, 833 tons; wool, 608 pounds; butter, 3,519 pounds; cheese, 500 pounds; and honey, 250 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CYRUS S. BROCK was born in the city of Philadelphia, on the 15th of March, 1856. While yet a boy his parents moved to Queenstown, Canada, where he grew to manhood, taking a full course at the Toronto Normal School, from which he graduated in 1870, and subsequently taught school at Brantford, Canada. He then worked a few months on his father's farm, after which he was employed about a year on a government survey in northwestern Canada. After teaching school a short time in St. John's Parish, near Winnipeg, he returned to his home in Canada, but after a brief visit, came to Minnesota and has since been engaged as a school teacher in Serburne, Otter Tail, and Stearns counties.

MICHAEL FOX was born on the 5th of September, 1857, in Columbia county, Wisconsin, where he lived on a farm enjoying common school privileges till he was eighteen years of age, when he left home, working in different places, and at different kinds of employment for about six years. In 1880, he came to Minnesota, and worked on the Winona and St. Peter railroad, doing section work, until he bought his present home in April, 1881. His farm of one hundred and sixty acres is in section four. It is new, and mostly covered with timber, but offers every advantage for a good farm. He married Miss Ida Finger in the summer of 1880. Mrs. Fox was born in the town of Bristol, Wisconsin, on the 22d of June, 1862. They have one child, named William.

JAMES HOBAN was born on the 3d of June, 1848, in the village of Carbondale, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. He lived with his parents until nineteen years of age, when he found his way to McLeod county, Minnesota, where he bought a farm

and lived about five years. He came to this township in the spring of 1881, and bought a farm in section eighteen, where he now resides. He was married to Miss Catharine Barrett, who was also born in Pennsylvania. They have three children.

GEORGE KULZER, a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born on the 22d of April, 1831. He lived with his parents, enjoying the school privileges of his native country, and working on the farm when not at school. When he was twenty-three years of age he emigrated to the United States, remaining in Pittsburg for two years, working in a rolling mill. In 1856, he came to St. Wendel, Stearns county, where he bought a farm on sections thirty-two and thirty-three, and lived for eighteen years. Was driven away during the Indian massacre, and with others, found a refuge at St. Joseph. He sold his farm in 1874, and located on a farm of one hundred and twenty-six acres, in section twenty-two, in this township, where he has since resided. He has a store, hotel, and saloon at the station. He was married in the year 1854, to Miss Margaret Winter, who was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1829. They have had six children; one, Mathias, about sixteen years of age, died June 9th, 1881, of diphtheria.

MARTIN OLEF MATTSON was born in Sweden, where he enjoyed the school advantages of his native country till fifteen years of age, when the family emigrated to the United States, locating at Millville, Wabasha county, Minnesota. He attended school there for three years, then one term at Lake City, and one term at the Scandinavian College, at St. Peter. At the age of twenty-two years, he went to Chicago and attended the Northwestern Telegraph Institute for six months. After completing his studies, he was employed as telegraph operator at Rochester, Minnesota. He has been in the employ of the Minnesota and Midland, Hastings and Dakota, Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul, and is now employed by the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad Company. He has charge of the depot at Albany, in the capacity of station agent and telegraph operator.

GEORGE JOHN WEIMMER was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 9th of February, 1824. He was raised on a farm, attending school in the city of Munich about four years, prior to coming to the United States. Came to New York in 1846, and was employed as clerk in a wholesale store for a time, then farmed in New York and Pennsylvania, till 1858, when he came to St. Paul, Minnesota,



and was employed with his brother, as engineer on a railroad for some time. He then kept a hotel for three years at Faribault, and in 1865, came to his present farm in the township of Albany. He has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Mary Buckenmeier, to whom he was married in 1849. She died in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1855, leaving three children, one of whom has since died. His present wife was Miss Elizabeth Hartman, a native of Pennsylvania, chosen in the year 1857. They have had nine children, eight of whom are living.

GEORGE WEIMMER dates his birth in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of April, 1853. The family came west in 1860, and after remaining two months in St. Paul, his father engaged in hotel business, continuing the same for nearly nine years. The subject of our sketch came to Albany in 1869, and has lived here ever since. He carries on a general store in the village, and is the present Town Clerk. Mr. Weimmer was united in marriage with Miss Johanna Garreis, of Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1879.

## ASHLEY.

### CHAPTER XCI.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Ashley is situated in the northwest corner of the county, and is chiefly a rolling prairie. The only exceptions being a strip of brush land on the east line near the northeast corner, and along the course of Ashley creek, which rises in Westport Lake, Pope county, and flows northeasterly through this town into the Sauk river, forming one of its principal tributaries. The soil varies from a light and sandy, to a black loam, with a clay sub-soil. It embraces all of township 126, range 35 west, and the south tier of sections of township 127, range 36, making an acreage of 26,880 acres, of which 1,118 are under cultivation.

There were a few claims made in this town a short time before the Indian outbreak of 1862, but abandoned during that excitement.

The first permanent settlement was begun in 1865, and among the first claimants were Henry Vessey, a native of England, who settled on sec-

tion thirty-six, north, but now resides in Dakota Territory, and John Eberspacher, who settled on section three, and still lives there. James Willard, William Holmes, H. Newman, and James Jardine also settled in the northeast part in 1866. J. S. Frederick settled on section seven the same summer, and was the first settler in that part of the town.

The population has increased slowly, but steadily, numbering 247, according to the last census.

This town was attached to Sauk Centre until 1870, when a separate organization was effected, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, A. M. Stiles, Chairman, H. J. Newman, and Thomas Rosier; Treasurer, William Holmes; Clerk, James Bruce; and Justice of the Peace, James Jardine.

When Ashley was organized, it embraced a strip of land lying along the whole north line, which has since been attached to Todd county.

There are three schools in the town. District number forty-six was organized in 1867, and the first school kept by Miss Mary Parker, in the house of F. Karell, located on the strip of land above mentioned as being since attached to Todd county. The first school building was erected soon after on section thirty-five, which was superseded by a new one in 1880. A portion of this district lies in Todd county.

District number sixty-five was organized in 1868, and a log school house built on section eight the same year. The present building stands on section three, and was erected in 1879.

District number one hundred was organized in 1874, and a small board shanty built on section seventeen, which served the purposes of a school house until 1876, when the present neat frame building was erected on section eighteen.

The agricultural report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 11,829 bushels; oats, 7,236 bushels; corn, 230 bushels; barley, 414 bushels; potatoes, 765 bushels; wild hay, 420 tons; apples, 5 bushels; and butter, 4,325 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN EBERSPACHER, one of the pioneers of this town, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 3d of April, 1837. He was employed, when a small boy, in his father's vineyard, and afterwards went to learn the locksmith's trade, being employed in that line until twenty years of age, when he came to America and settled in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania. He learned the black-





smith trade and remained in that county five or six years, coming thence to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and one year later, to his present farm, being one of the first settlers in the township. Mr. Eberspacher has been twice married. First to Miss Sophia Hertlein, of Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, in 1862, who died in 1864. His present wife was Miss Hannah Eisenman, to whom he was married in 1865.

A. FIELDIEN, a native of Massachusetts, was born on the 2d of December, 1843. The family came to Minnesota in 1855, locating in Scott county, where the subject of our sketch worked on a farm till 1869, when he came to Todd county, and located on his present farm in the township of Kendota, on section twenty-eight, which has since been his home. In 1861, Mr. Fieldien enlisted in Company A, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving ten months, when he was discharged for disability. Soon after his return, he re-enlisted in the Second Minnesota Cavalry, Company L, serving two years and four months on the frontier. Mr. Fieldien was married in May, 1866, to Miss Frances Warren, who came to Minnesota in 1854. They have five children.

HENRY FIELDING was born in the state of Minnesota. His father was a native of England, and emigrated to the United States and located in Todd county, where he died while his son was but an infant. When Mr. Fielding was nine years of age he went to live with G. W. Salmond, of Todd county. When he had attained a sufficient age, he went as a driver of freighting teams to the northwestern posts. About 1864, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, serving nine months. Then was employed freighting, and as a farm hand until he located on his present farm, in section three, in 1872, which has been his home since that date. He married Miss Rebecca Bryant in July, 1874.

J. S. FREDERICK was born on the 22d of March, 1829, in Orange county, New York. He lived with his father on the farm until twenty-two years of age, then commenced to farm for himself. After five years, he concluded to try his fortune in another State, and came to Minnesota in 1856, remaining for a short time in Scott county, but afterwards located on a farm in Rockford township, Wright county, which was his home for seven years. Then sold out and returned to Scott county for two years, when he enlisted in Company E, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer In-

fantry, serving seven months. On his return from the army, came to his present farm, on which he has lived since that date. He has been Chairman of the board of Supervisors for two years. Mr. Frederick was married to Miss Mary J. Smith on the 19th of December, 1850. They have ten children living.

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JAMES JARDINE, a native of Scotland, was born on the 7th of April, 1813. When about twenty-four years of age, left his father's home and went to the southern portion of England, where he was time keeper for railroad companies about fourteen years. In 1848, he came to Quebec, and in a short time settled in Upper Canada, where he was employed in agricultural pursuits. In 1849, he left Canada, and after a time, located in Rock Island, Illinois, where he was employed in a saw mill. In 1851, he came to St. Paul and was also engaged in a saw mill at that place. After a time he took a claim in Scott county, making it his home until 1866, when he came to his present farm in section thirty-five. He is one of the oldest settlers in the town, was the first Justice of the Peace, besides filling the office of Assessor and Treasurer. He was married to Mrs. Mary Whitter, of St. Paul, in 1854. They have one son.

JOHN MCGUIRE, a native of Leitrim county, Ireland, was born in the year 1821. When a small boy he went to live with his grandfather, and when about twenty years of age, emigrated to America, and located in Lower Canada, where he engaged in farming, making it his home until 1872. He moved to Minnesota soon after, and purchased a farm in section twenty-one, Ashley township, on which he still resides. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace two terms. Mr. McGuire was married in May, 1841, to Miss Hester Bowan; of six children born to them, but three are living.

A. M. STILES, a native of Steuben county, New York, was born on the 10th of April, 1838. In 1853, the family came west and located in Indiana, making their home on a farm until 1858, when they moved to Adams county, Wisconsin. In 1862, Mr. Stiles went to Rochester, Minnesota, making it his home until 1864, when he made an overland trip to the Pacific coast, and was engaged in mining in Idaho for about two years. In 1866, he returned to Minnesota, and located on a farm in section eleven, Ashley township, where he still resides. He was Chairman of the first board of Supervisors; was elected Town Clerk the following



year, and filled the office till 1880; was also a member of the House of Representatives from this district in 1879. He married Miss Mary W. Tecters, and they have four children.

JAMES WILLARD, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, was born on the 1st of January, 1835. The family moved to Wisconsin, locating in Rock county, in 1850. In 1855, the subject of this sketch left the home of his parents, and located in Iowa, but soon removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he purchased a farm on which he lived until 1866, when he came to his present home in section thirty-three, where he still resides. Mr. Willard has been twice married; first to Miss Harriet Small, on the 16th of January, 1851, who died in 1871. His present wife was Miss Elizabeth Beach, to whom he was married on the 6th of May, 1879.

FRANK A. STILES, a native of Steuben county, New York, was born on the 11th of November, 1852. His parents moved to Indiana, in 1854, and five years later, to Adams county, Wisconsin. Mr. Stiles lived in the last named place and in Marquette county, till the spring of 1862, when he came to Minnesota, first stopping at Holmes City, Douglas county; thence to Sauk Centre, Stearns county, and soon after, located on a farm near the latter town. Here he lived till five years ago, when he bought a farm in section sixteen, Ashley township, where he still resides. He was elected Town Clerk in 1880. Mr. Stiles was united in marriage with Miss Ida Martin, of Sauk Centre, on the 14th of January, 1879. They have one child, named Laura C. Mrs. Stiles' father, one of the old settlers of Sauk Centre, died in January, 1869, from injuries received by an accident in a lumber mill. Her mother is now Mrs. J. W. Johnson, of Sauk Centre.

## AVON.

### CHAPTER XCII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Avon is situated in the northeastern portion of the county, and is contained in township 125 north, range 30 west. It is chiefly covered with

timber, except where removed for agricultural purposes. It abounds in small lakes and marshes. The principal lakes are, Pelican Lake, in the northwest portion of the town, and Spunk, Kepper, Anna, Lemman, and Minnie lakes, in the vicinity of Avon village. The most beautiful of these is Spunk Lake.

The St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad passes through the southern portion of the town, where there is a station, and village named Avon. This little hamlet contains several stores and saloons, a blacksmith and carriage shop, school, Catholic Church, and a stove factory.

The first settler whose veins could lay any claim to the possession of Caucasian blood, was James Tanner, an Indian half-breed, who settled where Avon village now stands, in 1856, but has since moved away, and is now dead. John Barrett settled on section twelve in 1859, and still resides there. Among other early settlers were, Peter Gothard, Nicholas Theisen, Andrew Agthman, John Knobloch, Mathew Solinger, Nicholas Kepper, and his brothers, Nicholas S. and John; the last three now reside at the Station, but most of the others have moved away. The town is settled chiefly by Germans, with a few Austrians and Polanders; the population, according to the last census, was 468.

When Brockway was organized, in 1858, it embraced a large tract of country, and included the present territory of Avon, until the organization of the latter, in 1866. The formation of Albany, in 1868, reduced Avon to its present limits. Its area is 23,040 acres, of which 853 are under cultivation.

The first election was held at the house of Nicholas S. Keppers, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, Nicholas S. Keppers, Chairman, Isidore Obermiller, and Paul Obermiller; Clerk, John Brakethield; Treasurer, Nicholas S. Keppers; Justice of the Peace, William Murphy; and Assessor, John Schwinghammer.

The township is divided into two school districts. The first school taught was by Miss Mary Sutrup, in 1870, in the house of N. S. Keppers.

District number sixty was organized in 1872, and the building erected on section twenty-eight, near the station.

District number seventy-two was organized in 1876, and the school house located on section nine.

The products of Avon township, according to





the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 6,725 bushels; oats, 6,588 bushels; corn, 960 bushels; barley, 219 bushels; rye, 90 bushels; potatoes, 1,773 bushels; beans, 2 bushels; sugar cane, 63 gallons; cultivated hay, 42 tons; wild hay, 423 tons; apples, 1 bushel; tobacco, 91 pounds; wool, 457 pounds; butter, 3,785 pounds; and honey, 500 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES NELSON HOLMES was born on the 6th of January, 1858, in the village of Monroe, Green county, Wisconsin. Here he lived with his parents till five years of age, when his father died, and his mother went to Johnstown, New York, taking him with her. After one year they returned to White-water, Wisconsin, where James N. took a full course at the Normal School. After finishing his studies, he went to Green Bay, where he was employed as telegraph operator and station agent, and afterwards continued in the same employment at La Crosse, for about four years. He is now employed by the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway Company, at Avon Station, as ticket agent and telegraph operator.

PHILIP W. RICHTER was born on the 18th of October, 1857, in the city of St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he spent his youth under the directing hand of kind and affectionate parents. They came from Germany in 1855, and settled in Illinois, where they lived two years and then removed to St. Cloud. Philip received his education at the Normal School of St. Cloud, completing nearly the entire course. At the age of sixteen years, he left school and engaged in the profession of teacher. His first school was in St. Wendel township, and he has since conducted schools in Le Sauk, Zion, and St. Cloud, and is now on his fourth year in the village of Avon. Mr. Richter is spoken of as an able and efficient teacher. He was married on the 17th of September, 1878, to Miss Maggie Loso, who was born in St. Joseph, Stearns county, in 1858.

## BROCKWAY.

### CHAPTER XXIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—ORGANIZATION—POST-OFFICES—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Brockway is situated in the extreme northeast

corner of the county, and has an area of 33,960 acres, of which 2,438 are under cultivation.

It embraces all of township 126 north, range 29 west, the south tier of sections belonging to township 127, range 29, and a portion of township 126, range 28.

Along the river, at the south, there is a fine piece of prairie, formerly known as Winnebago Prairie, but now called Brockway Prairie. Towards the north, and separated from Brockway Prairie by a light strip of timber, is North Prairie, which extends into Morrison county. Westward from the river, the surface is somewhat hilly with occasional strips of low and swampy land. The higher land of this portion of the township is heavily timbered, and as yet, but little improved.

In the summer of 1855, the first permanent settlers arrived, and consisted of Milo Young, George Day, Winslow Getchell and his son Nathaniel, Asa and Winslow Libby, William Gordon, and a few others, all settling on Winnebago Prairie. In the fall of that year, James Y. Demeritt and William McNeal settled near the river, on North Prairie, and were followed soon after by Andrew McCrea and others. The winter of 1856-57 was an unusually hard one for the settlers. The cold was intense and the snow fell to a depth never since attained.

When the government survey was made, some time after this settlement, Mr. Demeritt and his neighbor McNeal found themselves on school section thirty-six, but fortunately, they were enabled to obtain land warrants, and thus secured their claims at about government price.

Sauk Rapids was then but a trading post and there were but a few houses at St. Cloud, consequently it was several years before enough concentrated action could be had to open a road along the west side of the river. The population, according to the last census was 743. The first school was taught by Miss Irene Carriek, of Elk River, in 1860; it was a private school, and held in the house of Winslow Getchell. The first preaching was also in the house of Mr. Getchell, in 1859, by the Rev. John Thompson, of Sauk Rapids. The first birth was a daughter of Asa Libby, born in 1857, and died at the age of nine months, making the first death in the town. The first marriage occurred in the fall of 1858, the contracting parties being, Edward B. Bliss and Miss Cynthia Gray.

This town was organized in 1858, and embraced



a large tract of country lying west of the river, but has been gradually reduced to its present limits by the organization of new towns. The first election was held on the 27th of May, at the house of Anson Northrup. A portion of the present town of Le Sank was included in the new town, in which Mr. Northrup lived. The officers elected were: Supervisors, Asa Libby, Chairman, J. E. Hayward, and William Gordon; Clerk, W. B. Ellis; Assessor, Reuben Gray, and Collector, Nathaniel Getchell.

The town was organized under the name of Winnebago, but changed to Brockway in 1860.

Brockway Post-office was established in September, 1857, and N. Getchell appointed Postmaster. About 1863, Mr. Getchell moved away and the office was discontinued, but soon re-established with Appleton Webb as Postmaster. He was succeeded by James Gray, and in October, 1879, Mrs. Alma Getchell, the present incumbent, was appointed.

North Prairie Post-office was formerly kept at the house of James Y. Demeritt, with Mrs. Demeritt as Postmistress, but some time ago it was removed north into Morrison county, which is its present location.

Some years ago, regular preaching was maintained at Brockway Prairie, but of late years it has been abandoned. A Sabbath school is kept up at the school house on section seventeen, and also one on Brockway Prairie.

There is a German Catholic Church situated on section twenty-five, which was erected in 1868, and in which services are held once a month. The congregation consists of about eighteen German, and forty Austrian families. Adjoining the church, is a cemetery inclosing about four acres of ground.

A cemetery is also located on section twenty-eight, which was formerly the property of the town, but owing to some inharmionious feeling, it was deeded to the Brockway Cemetery Association, about 1866, who still control it.

There are five school districts in the town, in which school is kept during the regular terms.

The products of Brockway, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 21,936 bushels; oats, 11,513 bushels; corn, 5,156 bushels; barley, 60 bushels; rye, 1,357 bushels; potatoes, 4,020 bushels; beans, 22 bushels; sugar cane, 288 gallons; cultivated hay, 160 tons; wild hay, 698 tons; apples, 12 bushels; tobacco, 178 pounds;

wool, 995 pounds; butter, 10,370 pounds; and honey, 650 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES Y. DEMERRITT was born in Woodstock, New Hampshire, on the 16th of February, 1822, and brought up as a farmer, which he has followed during life. In 1855, he came to Minnesota, and located temporarily on the east bank of the Mississippi river, at or near the present site of Bellevue, Morrison county. In November of the same year, he located on section thirty-six in the north part of Brockway township, then wild and unsettled. Mr. Demeritt and his only neighbor, William McNeal, crossed the river to this place in a birch bark canoe, swimming their stock, and thus isolated from civilization, began the improvement of their new homes. Mr. Demeritt was one of the organizers of the town, and has served a number of terms in most of the town offices, being one of the leading men in all public affairs. He married Miss Laura J. Gray, of Woodstock, New Hampshire, in June, 1851. They have two children; Isabel H., now Mrs. Robert Russell, and Eva E., living with her parents.

JOHN H. FISKE was born in Whitefield, New Hampshire, on the 12th of September, 1840. Removed to the south part of the State in 1861, and after three years, came to Clearwater, Minnesota. In 1873, he took a homestead of eighty acres in section twenty-six, Brockway township, to which he has since added forty acres, affording him a comfortable and convenient home.

NATHANIEL GETCHELL was born in Wesley, Maine, on the 9th of November, 1828. He came to Minnesota in 1852, settling in St. Anthony for three years, when he, with a few others, came to this township and opened a farm on section thirty-three, on Winnebago Prairie. He served thirteen months during 1862-63, in the Union Army, as a member of the Mounted Rangers. He was one of the founders of this town, and the first Collector. Since that time, he has filled some of the principal offices in the township, being Assessor for three years. He married Miss Alma M. Wing, of Vassellborough, Kennebec county, Maine, on the 21st of May, 1861. They have four children; Annie M., Carrie A., Ernest A., and Herbert W.

JOHN MCGEE was born in St. John's, New Brunswick, on the 9th of May, 1816. He resided in his native city until 1850, when he removed





near Hamilton, Canada, which was his home for five years. In 1855, he came to Minnesota and located at Little Falls, Morrison county, but after two years, crossed to the west side of the Mississippi, where he made a claim and remained until settling on his present farm in 1864. Mr. McGee has divided his time between farming and lumbering since coming to the State. He has been twice married; first to Miss Mary Gallop, in St. John's, New Brunswick, in November, 1840; she died in December, 1863, after having borne him nine children, seven of whom are yet living. They are named, Amos, Caroline E., George R., Benjamin O., John D., Emma E., and William M. Lydia S. died aged three years, and Mary A., aged eighteen years. Mr. McGee's present wife was Mrs. Sarah McDougal, to whom he was married in September, 1877. She became the wife of Donald McDougal in June, 1849, and removed to Bellevue, Minnesota, in 1855, where her husband died in January, 1874. Their children are, Peter B., William J., Marjery M., Kate C., Susan A., John L., Donald G., Archibald, and Edward F. They are all living in the vicinity of their old home, except William J., who went to Montana seven years ago.

WILLIAM MCNEAL (deceased) was born in New Brunswick on the 1st of May, 1830, and came to the United States in 1851, spending several years in the state of Maine, and two or three years in Michigan, from which place he removed to Minnesota. After spending nearly four years in St. Paul and the adjacent country, came to this town with Mr. Demeritt, in 1855, in whose family he lived till his marriage, in 1858, with Miss Harriet Crumb, of Sherburne, New York. Mr. McNeal was with Northrup and Brown at the hanging of the three Indian murderers, near Little Falls, in 1857. He died on the 11th of September, 1879, leaving his widow a fine rural home, where she still resides. During the Indian excitement of 1862, when all the people fled to St. Cloud for safety, Mrs. McNeal remained at home, and was the only woman in the settlement for two weeks. Bravery usually wins, though it may seem presuming to risk so much.

BENJAMIN O. MCGEE, a native of New Brunswick, was born on the 2d of August, 1850. Removed with his parents in early childhood to Canada, and in 1855, to the United States, locating at Little Falls, Minnesota, where he remained about four years; then to Pike Rapids, where he remained

till 1861, when he removed to this town, and in 1870, located on section twelve; then in 1877, purchased a farm on section seven, where he now resides. He has been engaged in the log-driving business for the last sixteen years. He married Miss Cora Crosby, of this town, on the 15th of July, 1870. They have had seven children, two of whom are living; Wilbert R. and Frank E.

ROBERT L. RUSSELL was born near Glasgow, Scotland, on the 24th of May, 1844. He came with his mother and other members of the family to America, landing in Minnesota in 1851. His father, Robert Russell, having come to this country three years prior to this time, was known far and near as "Scottie," being the only Scotchman among the pioneer fathers. He lead an active life, and was several times called to fill positions of public trust in the county and township. In 1860, he went to Pike's Peak, where he was killed by a blast in the mines. Mrs. Russell also died in 1877. Robert L. lived in Benton county from the time he came to the country till 1873, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section eighteen, this township, where he now lives. He married Miss Hannah I. Demeritt, daughter of James Y. Demeritt, in September, 1874. Mrs. Russell was born in New Hampshire, in 1856. They have four children; John A., Laura A., Ella E., and Jessie.

## COLLEGEVILLE.

### CHAPTER XCIV.

This town lies east of the center of the county, and adjoins St. Joseph on the west. The surface is undulating, with considerable swamp and marsh land. The southern part is covered with light brush, and the northern part contains some heavy timber.

The first settlers were George Seherer and Joseph Jonas, who settled on section twenty-six about 1858, and are now living there. John Obermiller settled on section two about the same time, and a number of others made claims in different portions of the town soon after. The population, according to the last census, was 318.

This township was a part of St. Joseph, and Farming, until January, 1880, when a separate organization was effected. The name is derived from St. John's College, a popular institution of



learning, situated in the northern part of the town, a full description of which appears in the foregoing pages of this work.

A portion of the first township officers were: Supervisors, Mathias Sauer, Chairman, Peter Eich, and Mathias Fandel; and Clerk, George Sauer.

Collegeville has an area of 23,040 acres, 352 being under cultivation. The products in 1880 were: wheat, 4,175 bushels; oats, 1,720 bushels; corn, 790 bushels; rye, 60 bushels; wild hay, 216 tons; apples, 2 bushels; wool, 104 pounds; and butter, 1,090 pounds.

## CROW LAKE.

Crow Lake is situated in the extreme southwest corner of the county, and embraces township 123 north, range 35 west. It is chiefly a rolling prairie, excepting along the course of Skunk river, and on the margins of some of the lakes, where there is some swamp and brush land, and a quantity of light timber. The principal lakes are, Crow, from which the town derives its name, Tamarack, Fish, and Grass lakes, the latter lying partly in Pope county.

Skunk river is the name of a small stream which rises in Tamarack Lake, and flows easterly, emptying into the North Fork of Crow river, in Crow River township. The soil is chiefly a sandy loam with a clay subsoil.

This town was uninhabited until about 1861, when two Swedes, named C. H. Johnson and John Johnson, made claims here. Since then there has been a steady increase in population, until in 1880, the census returns showed 255 souls. They are nearly all Scandinavians, but two American families now living in the township.

Its area is 23,040 acres, of which 1,650 are under cultivation.

Crow Lake was organized in 1868, and embrace, in addition to its present territory, the west half of township 123, range 34, but was reduced to its present limits by the organization of Crow River in 1877.

The first officers were: Supervisors, W. B. Reed, Chairman, Peter Knudson, and H. Anderson; Clerk, F. H. Swenson; Assessor, C. H. Johnson; and Treasurer, Henry Hess.

The first school was taught by Miss Julia Nelson in 1870.

The town is now divided into two school districts with buildings situated on sections twenty-two and twenty-eight.

The agricultural returns for 1880 show the following products: wheat, 15,157 bushels; oats, 13,293 bushels; corn, 2,670 bushels; barley, 157 bushels; rye, 88 bushels; potatoes 770 bushels; sugar-cane, 40 gallons; cultivated hay, 32 tons; wild hay, 1,178 tons; apples, 6 bushels; wool, 566 pounds; and butter, 9,985 pounds.

## CROW RIVER.

Crow River is located in the southwestern portion of the county, and is contained in township 123 north, range 34 west. The surface is a gently rolling prairie interspersed with marsh land, and a light growth of timber in the southwest corner along the creek which is the outlet of Crow Lake, and crosses this portion of the town in a southeasterly direction. Skunk river and the North Fork of Crow river cross the northern and eastern portions of the town, the former running in an easterly, and the latter in a southerly direction. The soil is generally a sandy loam with a clay sub-soil, although a clay loam is found in the southwest part.

This town is also settled almost entirely by Scandinavians.

In 1860, the first settlers arrived. They consisted of Gilbert Anfinson, T. Wronson, and H. Jorgenson. They settled in the southwest part of the town, but left their claims during the Indian outbreak of 1862, and fled to more civilized localities.

In 1864, quite a settlement was formed, prominent among whom were Peter Knudson and Gilbert Anfinson, the latter being one of the first settlers in 1860. This settlement erected a fort just over the line in Kandiyohi county, to which they might retreat in case of a suspected attack by the red-skins.

This town is yet but sparsely settled, the census of 1880 showing a population of but 137. Its area is 23,040 acres, of which 959 are under cultivation.

The first birth was in the family of Gilbert Anfinson, before the Indian war, a daughter, who lived but a short time and was the first death.

The first marriage was in 1871, the contracting parties being Nels Halland and Miss R. Mathison.





The first public school was held in the summer of 1870, by Miss Emma Morgan, in the house of C. H. Johnson. The first and only school house in the town is located on section thirty. The first religious services were held in the house of Peter Knudson, in 1866, by Rev. Johnson.

Crow River was organized in 1877, eighteen sections being detached from the west side of Lake Henry, and a similar number from the eastern portion of Crow Lake, for the formation of the new town. The first officers were: Supervisors, Daniel Peterson, Chairman, John Henrikson, and Nels Halland; Clerk, Knut P. Knutson; Assessor, Daniel Peterson; and Treasurer, G. Larson.

The products of the town, according to the report of 1880, were: wheat, 10,555 bushels; oats, 7,484 bushels; corn, 365 bushels; barley, 812 bushels; rye, 9 bushels; potatoes, 387 bushels; wild hay, 951 tons; apples, 4 bushels; wool, 44 pounds; and butter, 7,756 pounds.

## EDEN LAKE.

### CHAPTER XCV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Eden Lake is situated on the south line of the county, and nearly midway between the east and west lines. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 1,686 are under cultivation, and embraces township 122 north, range 31 west.

The surface is undulating, with some swamp and low land. The town is chiefly covered with timber or brush, and contains a large number of lakes, the largest of which is Rice Lake, in the western portion of the town. Prominent among the smaller lakes, are: Pirz, Long, Brown's, Eden, and Vail's lakes.

The man who establishes the best claim to the honor of being the first settler in this town, is Charles Holifer, who made a claim on section four in 1856. He was followed during the same year by Ferdinand Zaczkowski, who settled on section five, and B. Pirz, who took land on sections five and six. Others also settled in that portion of the town about the same time. David J. Hanscom came in 1859, and located on section twenty-five; he was the first American settler, and now resides

in that part of the township. In 1860, Haley Clark settled in section twenty-four, and in 1864, Thomas A. Allen also became a resident of the town; both are now dead. The population, according to the last census, was 325.

The territory now included in Eden Lake, was formerly a part of Richmond township, afterwards Munson, organized in 1858, but formed into a separate organization in 1867, and the first election held on the 16th of February. The first officers were: Supervisors, W. T. Mills, Chairman, T. R. McGuire, and Ernst Holifer; Clerk, D. J. Hanscom; Assessor, C. P. Russell; Treasurer, Thomas Allyn; Justices of the Peace, James Jones and B. Pirz; and Constables, George Hamilton and William Marquette.

The first school taught in this town was in the German settlement, in 1864. In 1870, district number sixty-three was organized in the American settlement, a school house erected on section twenty-three, and the first school taught by Miss Lizzie C. Allyn.

Eden Lake is now divided into four districts, with the school houses located respectively on sections, five, twenty-three, twenty-nine, and thirty-four. The school on section twenty-nine is held in a dwelling house.

An organization of Campbellites was formed by the Rev. Isaac Cameron in 1869. They have no church building, but meet regularly in some one of the school houses or private residences.

There is also another organization, known as the Church of God, which was formed in 1875. The first minister was the Rev. C. Scott. They have not yet erected a church, but hold regular services in the school houses.

Eden Lake produced, according to the agricultural report of 1880: wheat, 21,396 bushels; oats, 9,368 bushels; corn, 5,540 bushels; rye, 83 bushels; potatoes, 2,815 bushels; sugar cane, 133 gallons; cultivated hay, 10 tons; wild hay, 838 tons; apples 38 bushels; wool, 1,479 pounds; butter, 7,300 pounds; cheese, 666 pounds; and honey, 100 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

HENRY M. DYE, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 10th of November, 1827. He enjoyed the advantages of a common school education, learning the art of farming under his father's direction. In 1851, he went to Iowa, where he engaged in the lumber business for fifteen years, except one year spent in Kentucky. In 1866, he came to



Minneapolis and engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills for two years, then moved to Osseo, Hennepin county, and continued the same business until 1872. Then moved to Clearwater, Wright county, for a few months, and thence to Eden Lake, in the spring of 1873, and bought a farm on section twenty-four. Mr. Dye has been Justice of the Peace, and is now on his third term as Town Clerk, and has also been a member of the School Board for several years. He married Miss Mary Welliver, of Pennsylvania, in the year 1853. They have three children; Florence E., Ada F., and Judson J.

DAVID J. HANSCOM was born in York county, Maine, on the 23d of August, 1833. When a small boy, the family removed to Kennebec county, where he grew to manhood engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the age of nineteen years he engaged in mercantile business, but after three years, came west and remained one year in Wisconsin, coming thence to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed at the carpenter trade until 1859. He then came to Eden Lake and located on section twenty-five, being the first American settler in the town. He lived here until 1861, when he enlisted in the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, going first to Fort Abercrombie, and in March, 1862, to St. Louis. In May of the same year, his regiment was ordered south, where it joined General Pope's division, and in the fall, was transferred to General Grant's division, and participated in the siege of Vicksburg in 1863. In the early summer of 1864, he came home on furlough, but returned to Fort Ripley, and was discharged in October, 1864. He then returned to Eden Lake and took a homestead on section twenty-four where he now resides. Mr. Hanscom was the first Town Clerk, elected in 1867, and held the office eleven years. He has been Assessor for the last eight years, and is now Treasurer and Clerk of the school board. He represented his district in the State Legislature in 1880. Mr. Hanscom has been twice married; first to Miss Maria Clark, of Illinois, on the 18th of August, 1859, who died on the 19th of January, 1870, leaving two children; Sanford and Mary A. His present wife was Lizzie C. Abbott, to whom he was married on the 22d of February, 1871. They have had four children, three of whom are living; George E., Stella L., and Ella F. Beniah died on the 20th of April, 1881, aged two years three months and thirteen days.

BARTHOLOMEW PIRZ, a native of Prussia, was born on the 24th of August, 1819. He emigrated to the United States in 1854, spending the first winter at Sank Rapids, Crow Wing, and Platte River. In the spring of 1855, located at Cold Spring City, in the township of Wakefield, taking a claim on section twenty-nine, where he lived about two years. He moved to Munson in the fall of 1856, remaining one year, and then removed to Eden Lake. In 1859, he went to the Rocky Mountains, and after three years returned to Munson, where he lived two years; thence returning to Eden Lake he located on a farm in sections five and six, where he now resides. He was Treasurer of the town one year. He married Miss Johanna Holifer in 1858. Their children are, Josephine, Magdaline, Joseph, Angeline, and John.

## FAIR HAVEN.

### CHAPTER XCVI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS — ORGANIZATION — RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Fair Haven is one of the southeastern towns in the county, and embraces a portion of township 122 north, range 28 west, and a portion of township 121, range 28. The surface is undulating and was formerly covered with brush, most of which has been removed by the stride of improvement.

There are a number of small lakes within the limits of the town, besides a chain of larger lakes, which form its southern boundary. The latter consists of Clearwater, Augusta, Caroline, Maria, Sunday, and Mary lakes, through which flows the Clearwater river. Its area is 21,760 acres, of which 1,861 are under cultivation.

The first man to make a claim in Fair Haven was Thomas C. Partridge, a Free Baptist Clergyman, now residing in Orland, Indiana. He came here in the spring of 1856, and located where the village of Fair Haven now stands; surveyed and platted the town site, and built a saw mill the following year. In the spring of 1857, a general store was opened by Charles Abell, a native of Ohio, and later in the summer, Partridge and Hazard opened a clothing store.

In 1859, a grist mill was built by O. D. Webb.





Grinols and Cooper opened a general store in 1866, which is still continued by them. There is also another store kept by J. B. Vandervort & Co. This little village, although far removed from railroad facilities, has maintained a steady growth, and has two saw mills, one grist mill, two stores, three blacksmith shops, one hotel, one church, and one school house.

As a matter of course, these improvements were stimulated by the rapid development of the country adjacent.

During the summer of 1856, Mr. Partridge was joined by George G. Root, who built the first house, Henry Root, John L. Dean, J. G. Smith, L. Abell, and A. Smith. These six men each opened a farm within one mile northeast of the town site. The settlement thus begun by a thrifty and intelligent colony of Americans, has developed into one of the best settled townships in the county, the population, according to the census of 1880, being 420.

The first child born was Eugene Day, son of William Day, now residing in Maine Prairie. The first death was Theron Dean, a son of George W. Dean, who died in the spring of 1857, soon after his arrival. The first marriage occurred in the summer of 1857, the contracting parties being Joseph Strickland and Amelia Giles. The first Post-office was established in 1858, and John K. Noyes appointed Postmaster; Mr. Noyes also opened the first hotel in 1857. S. Leavitt built the first blacksmith shop in 1861.

Fair Haven township was organized in 1859, and the first election held on the 5th of April, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, A. Montgomery, Chairman, Thomas C. Partridge, and Samuel Young; Assessor, J. H. Lock; Clerk, James Jenks; Collector, William Hayward; Overseer of the Poor, H. H. Mayo; Constables, G. A. Bibber and S. Leavitt; and Justices of the Peace, C. J. Boobar and H. P. Bennett. Forty-four votes were polled.

Mr. Partridge, the pioneer of the town, held religious services as soon as an audience arrived, and formed an organization, but this has been extinct for a number of years.

About 1858, Rev. Mr. Inman succeeded in organizing a congregation of Close Communion Baptists. Services were held in such places as could be secured, for a number of years, but they now worship in a church of their own. A. W. Woodruff is the Pastor.

The first school was kept in a store-house, in the winter of 1856-57, by Miss Anna M. Boobar. A school house was built in 1866, which was replaced in 1880, by a large two-story building. There are also two schools in the township, in which school is kept during the regular terms.

The agricultural report of 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 19,736 bushels; oats, 6,955 bushels; corn, 6,405 bushels; buckwheat, 30 bushels; potatoes, 1,585 bushels; beans, 75 bushels; sugar cane, 1,552 gallons; cultivated hay, 39 tons; wild hay, 656 tons; apples, 163 bushels; wool, 616 pounds; butter, 8,345 pounds; and honey, 1,740 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN D. ABELL, a son of Lovinas Abell, who was one of the original six who opened farms in this town in 1856, was born in Ohio, on the 1st of December, 1845. He came with the family to Fair Haven in 1856, and with the exception of three years spent in the army, has been engaged in farming in the town ever since. He married Miss Henrietta Dean, on the 16th of August, 1879. They have one child, Horace E.

JOTHAM L. BUZZELL, a native of Maine, was born in the year 1821. He learned the blacksmith trade in youth, and has followed the business most of his life. He was three years in the army during the late civil war. Came to Anoka, Minnesota, in 1878, and in the fall of 1880, to Fair Haven, where he conducts a blacksmith shop. He married Miss Sarah D. Wakefield, in 1847. They have two children; Clara A., now the wife of Charles E. Brown, of Champlin, and Henry H., who is a partner with his father in the shop. He was born on the 16th of July, 1849, and married Miss Mary Collin, of Maine, in 1871. They have four children; Arthur L., Lucy E., Edwin W., and Harry H.

WILLIAM COOPER, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was born on the 4th of March, 1838. When he was five years old, the family moved to the north part of the State, where he grew to manhood on a farm, and followed the same till 1857, when he came to Bethel, Anoka county, Minnesota. In 1862, he enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served eighteen months on the frontier in pursuit of the Indians, and then went south, but after six months was discharged on account of wounds received at the battle of Murfreesboro'. In July, 1865, came to Fair Haven, and in company with Benjamin Grinols conducts a general merchandise business.



Has been Postmaster for a number of years. Married Miss Lizzie Noyes on the 29th of May, 1866. Their children are, Minnie M., Mand A., and Blanch.

G. W. BISHOP was born in Ohio, on the 17th of July, 1840. His early life was spent on a farm and in a flouring mill, following the latter occupation through life. At the age of twenty-five years he went to Indiana, and after a stay of ten years, removed to Wisconsin, and thence, in 1877, to Kingston, Meeker county, Minnesota. In April, 1880, he came to Fair Haven, and in company with John S. Crocker, has since conducted a flouring mill at this point. Mr. Bishop was married in 1869, to Miss Ella J. Britton. Their children are, Alice L., Amy E., and Nancy A.

JOHN S. CROCKER, a native of Auburn, New York, was born on the 1st of May, 1847. At the age of eighteen years he went to sea, visiting San Francisco, the Sandwich Islands, and West Indies. In 1868, he located in Michigan, and was in the milling business for six years, then went to Iowa in the same occupation for two years, thence to Winmar, Minnesota, and Kingston, Meeker county, and finally, in 1880, to Fair Haven in company with G. W. Bishop, as above mentioned.

GEORGE W. DEAN was born in Connecticut on the 23d of June, 1809, and came to Fair Haven in the spring of 1857. Farming has been his life's business. He married Miss Maria Brown in 1837, who died in September, 1879. His son, John L., one of the original six to open farms in this township in 1856, died in 1880.

GIBSON W. DEAN, a native of Ohio, was born on the 28th of September, 1839. He came with the family to Fair Haven in the spring of 1857, where he has lived since that date. He married Miss Eliza A. Griggs, of Ohio, on the 4th of July, 1861. They had one child, Eliza. Mrs. Dean died in April, 1865. His present wife was Miss Mary E. Vandervoort, to whom he was married on the 19th of March, 1871. They have two children; Howard E. and Chester W.

ALEXANDER C. EASTON, a native of Illinois, was born in the year 1852. He spent most of his life in his native State, coming to Fair Haven in 1875. He is a carpenter by trade, which profession he followed until April, 1881, when he succeeded T. C. Wiltse in the stage route between this place and St. Cloud. He also carries the United States mail, and has in connection with his stage route, a livery stable.

BENJAMIN GRINOLS, a native of the town of Otto, New York, was born in the year 1832. His early life was spent on a farm; came to Oak Grove, Anoka county, Minnesota, in 1856, and farmed until 1865, then moved to Fair Haven and engaged in a general merchandise business. The firm name is Grinols and Cooper. He married Miss Isabella Cooper in May, 1859. They have three children; Clinton D., Ernest E., and Elsie J.

CARSON A. KIMBLE, a native of Penfield, New York, was born on the 8th of October, 1853. He came to Minnesota in April, 1871, and located at Fair Haven. His father, Uriah Kimble, was a wagon maker by trade, and followed it through life. He died in August, 1880, after which the subject of this sketch, and a man named Charles L. Kimball formed a partnership and continued the business. Mr. A. Kimble married Miss Mary Henneman on the 30th of November, 1879.

JOSEPH H. LOCK was born in Maine, in the year 1820. He was brought up in the mercantile business which he followed in Maine and Massachusetts until 1848, when he went to California and spent several years in mining, then returned to the States. In 1857, came to Minnesota and located at Fair Haven. Here he bought a farm on section twenty-four, and has resided on it ever since. His farm contains five hundred and sixty acres. He married Miss Martha B. Bradford, of Maine, in 1845. They have two adopted children, Fanny W. and Harry S.

JOHN K. NOYES was born in Jonesboro', Maine, on the 3d of May, 1817. He was engaged in the lumber business when a boy, and followed it till 1856, when he came to Minnesota, and located in the township of Fair Haven in 1857. He engaged in the hotel business for four or five years, and was the first to open a public house in this part of the county. He next farmed for three years, then engaged in building mill-dams in different parts of the State, and also continues to manage his farm. He has a fine farm in section four, near the village of Fair Haven. He was the first Post-master in the town, in 1858. He married Miss Martha P. Small, of Cherryfield, Washington county, Maine, in December, 1837. They have ten children; Lizzie, Mary, Vernice, George, Julia, Frank, Nellie, James A., Nettie, and Mattie.

WEBSTER K. NYE was born in Chautauque county, New York, on the 13th of October, 1842. When a child the family moved to Cattaraugus county, where he lived until 1869. Then he went





to Bradford, Pennsylvania, and engaged in the hotel and livery business until March, 1880, when he moved to Fair Haven, locating on a farm in section two, where he still resides. He married Miss Emily E. Fuller, of Bradford, Pennsylvania, in 1867. They have four children; Leon H., Sidney M., Clayton T., and Earl. Mr. Nye served three years and ten months in the Union army.

FLOROUS B. PARTRIDGE was born on the 14th of July, 1853, in Ohio. Came to Fair Haven, in 1856, and grew to manhood at home. From March, 1870, to 1881, was clerking in a store. He now owns a farm in section twenty-two, town of Southside, Wright county, which he rents, and lives with his brother in Fair Haven. He married Miss Anna Kurtz, on the 3d of October, 1880.

PAYSON P. PARTRIDGE, eldest son of Thomas C. Partridge, was born in Ohio, on the 16th of November, 1843. Came with the family to Fair Haven, in 1856, and worked with his father in a saw-mill, from the age of fifteen to twenty-five years. During the last four years he was in the business, he owned a one-third interest in the saw-mill. Then was three years in the mercantile trade, then worked at pattern making, in St. Cloud, till 1877, when he moved to a farm located on section thirty, in the town of Fair Haven. He married Miss Althea Boobar, on the 14th of January, 1868. They have two children; Errol C. and Ralph C.

THOMAS C. PARTRIDGE, the founder of Fair Haven township, was born in Ohio, in 1816. He was educated for a Baptist minister, and after coming to Fair Haven took an active part in managing the town interests. He married Miss Caroline U. Root. Their children are, Payson P., Velona C., now the wife of J. B. Vandervort, Cecil C., and Florous B. Mr. Partridge has given his attention to preaching for some years, and is now located at Orland, Indiana, preaching and farming.

STEPHEN SIAS was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, on the 29th of April, 1830. He came to Anoka county, Minnesota, in 1856, and lived four years in Oak Grove township, engaged in farming. He was then in the city of Anoka four years, working in a cooper shop, then two years in Fair Haven in the carpenter business, after which he took a homestead on section two, in the town of Fair Haven, where he now resides. He married Mrs. Desire Baldwin, on the 17th of February, 1855. They have one son, Frank L., born on the 30th of January, 1857; a graduate of the Normal

School at Mankato, and for the last three years has been teaching school.

RODERICK R. SARGENT, a native of Washington county, Vermont, was born in the year 1830. When a young man, he followed railroading for about twenty-three years; first as a brakeman, then baggage master, and for the last fifteen years of his railroad life as engineer on different roads. He was a soldier for three years; came to Minnesota in 1873, stopping four years in Clearwater, working in a harness shop and livery stable, then for a time was running a stationary engine. In 1880, came to Fair Haven, and is now engineer in Linscott's mill. His wife was Mrs. Mary Kimball, the marriage taking place in June, 1880.

SILAS C. SROIT, a native of Maine, was born on the 22d of April, 1831. He was a farmer boy; came to Wisconsin at the age of twenty-four, and ten years after, to Maine Prairie, Stearns county, Minnesota, locating on a farm until 1868, when he removed to Fair Haven and engaged in merchandising for six years, since which time he has been in the hotel business. He married Miss Maria L. Getchell, of Maine, on the 1st of November, 1852. They have four children; Frederick L., Charles E., Eugene S., and William P.

JOHN B. VANDERVORT, a native of Clinton county, Ohio, was born on the 9th of December, 1839. After attaining manhood, followed farming for a living. In 1861, he moved to St. Francis, Anoka county, Minnesota, where he remained till fall, then went to Maine Prairie, where he remained one year on a rented farm, and in 1862, came to Fair Haven, and for five winters taught school, having an interest in a saw-mill during that time. After 1868, he engaged in the merchandise business, the firm being Partridge and Vandervort. At the expiration of one year he sold out, then farmed for two years, after which he went to Waukesha, Wisconsin, and took charge of a department in the Industrial School, but after one and a half year's teaching, was compelled to resign on account of declining health, and for a few years he engaged in no permanent business. In 1877, he moved to Maine Prairie and worked in a store for about one year, then returned to Fair Haven and conducted the co-operative store until it closed out in 1880, to the firm of J. B. Vandervort & Co. This firm is composed of Mr. Vandervort, J. H. Lock, and J. H. Baldwin. Mr. Vandervort married Miss Velona M. Partridge on the 23d of May, 1866. They have one child, Herman L.



RICHARD M. VANDERVORT, a native of Ohio, was born in the year 1842. He came to Fair Haven, Minnesota, in the spring of 1861; farmed one year, then worked at the carpenter business for two years, and the next two years, drove stock to Bismarck; he then engaged in the merchandise business, which he has followed to the present time, being now in the employ of Grinols & Cooper. He married Miss Alma C. Webb, daughter of O. D. Webb, on the 24th of May, 1866. Their children are, Homer W. and Charles H.

## FARMING.

Farming is situated not far from the geographical center of the county, and embraces township 124 north, range 31 west

The surface is undulating, and in some places hilly. The Sauk river crosses the southwest corner, running in a southeasterly direction, and in that vicinity there is some prairie, but the balance of the town is chiefly covered with brush. There are a number of small lakes, the largest of which are the Big Rice Lakes in the eastern part.

The first settler was Nicholas Evans, who came about 1858, and settled on section thirty-one. The next spring, John H. Terfear, William Korte, and his brother settled in the town, but very little improvement was made till after the war. Since that time there has been a slow but steady increase in population, until the last census showed an aggregate of 285 persons, nearly all living in the south part of the township. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 1,539 are under cultivation.

Farming was organized in 1873, and the first election held on the 11th of March, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, Gerhard Brunner, Chairman, Patrick Cavanagh, and Mathias Thelen; Clerk, Valentine Garding; and Assessor and Treasurer, Christ Nicholas.

There is a German Catholic church on section thirty-two. It was built in 1880, and the first service held on the 6th of June, 1881. A priest from Richmond visits this place semi-monthly.

About six years ago, Christ Meyer taught the first school in the town. There are now two school houses, which belong to joint districts.

The agricultural report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 19,074 bushels; oats,

8,764 bushels; corn, 1,890 bushels; barley, 40 bushels; rye, 130 bushels; potatoes, 1,136 bushels; cultivated hay, 8 tons; wild hay, 562 tons; apples, 3 bushels; wool, 841 pounds; butter, 4,075 pounds; and honey, 115 pounds.

## GETTY.

### CHAPTER XCVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Getty is situated in the northwestern portion of the county, and is chiefly a rolling prairie, the exceptions being Getty's Grove in the western part, which extends into the town of Raymond, and Pesheck's Grove in the eastern part. Its area is 23,040 acres, of which 4,478 are under cultivation, and is contained in township 125 north, range 34 west.

The soil is principally a rich black loam with a clay subsoil, except in the northeast corner, where a light sandy loam is found, caused by the Sauk river, which crosses this portion of the town in a southeasterly direction. There are also a number of small lakes and some good hay meadows.

John J. Getty, in honor of whom the town is named, was undoubtedly the first permanent settler. He came on the 6th of July, 1857, and settled on section nineteen, in what has since been known as Getty's Grove, and still resides there. John H. Layman accompanied Mr. Getty, and took land in sections eighteen, nineteen, and twenty, but did not remain long, and is now in Michigan. A. J. Bennett, now of Melrose, settled in section one, about 1858. Franz Pesheck, of Bohemia, lived on Mr. Getty's farm in 1862, and the following year, made a claim in section fourteen, but now resides in Dakota Territory. Jacob Hurley settled on section nineteen, about 1863, but has since vacated the claim.

The town was but sparsely settled prior to the Indian outbreak, but since the close of the war the population has steadily increased, numbering, according to the last census, 538 persons.

This town was organized in 1865, and embraced all of the present territory of Raymond, but was reduced to its present limits on the organization of the latter town in 1867.





The first officers were: Supervisors, Jacob Hurley, Chairman, Robert Watson, and Newton Sanders; Clerk, Jacob Church; Treasurer, F. Pesheck; Assessor, A. J. Bennett; and Justices of the Peace, M. H. Palmer and Samuel Haulenberry.

On the 6th of September, 1875, a Post-office was established at the residence of G. Gilbertson, on section nineteen, but was discontinued after an existence of about four years.

The town is divided into four school districts. The first school was established mainly through the efforts of J. J. Getty, and was held in a log school house on section nineteen, by Mrs. Hattie Viele. This district was organized in 1867, and numbered fifty-three. The old log school house was burned down in 1876, and a neat frame building has since been erected on the same site.

District number fifty-four was organized the same year, and the first school held in B. A. Veeder's residence. In a few years a log school house was built on section fourteen, which was removed, some years later, to section ten, where a frame building, erected in 1880, now adorns the site.

District number sixty-one was organized about 1868, and the school house located on section twenty-six.

District number eighty-two was organized in 1871, and the first school held the same year. The building is situated on section five.

The products of Getty, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 48,704 bushels; oats, 28,614 bushels; corn, 5,039 bushels; barley, 1,412 bushels; rye, 25 bushels; potatoes, 3,472 bushels; cultivated hay, 53 tons; wild hay, 2,324 tons; apples, 34 bushels; wool, 658 pounds; butter, 13,132 pounds; cheese, 200 pounds; and honey, 190 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

HIRAM BELLINGER, a native of Fulton county, New York, was born on the 5th of March, 1828. When an infant, the family moved to Oneida county, where the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. In 1854, Mr. Bellinger moved to Wisconsin, locating on a farm in Daue county; then in 1865, removed to Minnesota, and located on section ten, Getty township, where he now resides. He married Miss Sarah A. Logan in 1848. They have five living children.

J. H. BRUCE, a native of Montgomery county, Indiana, was born on the 22d of March, 1833, where he grew to manhood, engaged in farming

pursuits. After attaining manhood, he purchased a farm in the same county, making it his home until 1863, when he moved to Minnesota, and purchased a farm two miles east of the present village of Sank Centre, and lived on it for ten years. In 1873, he located on a farm in section eighteen, Getty township, where he still resides. He has a large farm, well furnished, affording himself and family a good home. He was Chairman of the board of Supervisors of Sank Centre for four terms, and has filled the same office in this township for three years. He married Miss Sarah E. La Follett, on the 10th of October, 1854. They have seven children living.

H. N. CARPENTER, son of Horatio Carpenter, who served in the war of 1812, was born in Lebanon, Columbia county, New York, on the 18th of December, 1842. When a boy, commenced to work on a neighboring farm. In September, 1861, enlisted in Company M, of the Sixth New York Cavalry, serving until August, 1865. After being discharged from service, he returned to his home in New York, but soon after, made a trip west, spending the first winter in Michigan. The following spring (1866) he came to Minnesota, and took a homestead in section eight, Getty township, where he is living at this writing. He married Miss Nancy Veeder, on the 30th of November, 1867. They have three living children.

JOHN JEROME GETTY, the first settler of the town that bears his name, was born in Onondaga county, New York, on the 15th of September, 1821. His father was one of the pioneers of the county of his birthplace. Mr. Getty, though living on a farm all his life, has found time to read and accumulate a store of knowledge, making him one of the most affable and genial men of the town. He lost his mother by death when quite young, and his father brought into the household a step-mother, so that at the age of eight years he left home and began to work on the Erie canal, and continued in that occupation until about twenty-two years of age, when he came west. In 1843, he opened a new farm in Peoria county, Illinois, where he lived ten years. In 1853, he came to Minnesota, and spent about one year on the present site of Minneapolis, in the employ of Martin Layman, as a helper on the farm, and on the 31st of October, 1854, was married to Miss J. Layman, and immediately returned to his farm in Illinois, where he lived till 1857, when he returned to Minnesota. During the same year, took a farm



in section nineteen, Getty township, where he still resides. During the war, the family lived in Minneapolis for about four years. He filled a number of offices, in the county and town. He has two children; Fannie E. and Margaret A.

ABNER M. LAMB, a native of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 28th of April, 1833. The family moved to Newtown of the same county, when the subject of this sketch was about eight years old. He took an active part in the labors of the farm till about sixteen years of age, then went and served an apprenticeship to the stone-mason's trade, which he followed for some years. In 1857, he moved to the state of Maryland, and the following year to Iowa county, Wisconsin, and employed his time in farming and working at his trade. In 1863, he visited California, returning in 1865, and immediately moved to Minnesota, taking a homestead in section eleven, Getty township, where he has one of the best improved farms in the town. He lived in Sauk Centre for five years, while educating his family. Was married to Miss Rachel E. Vanhorn, on the 18th of January, 1855. They have two sons living.

DAVID LOVE (deceased) was born in Somerset county, Maine, on the 29th of April, 1851. His father was a farmer and enlisted in the Thirty-first Maine Infantry, serving eighteen months. After returning from the army in 1866, the family moved to Minnesota, locating on a farm in section thirty, Getty township, where they still live. Mr. Love died soon after coming to the State, since which time his son David has owned and controlled eighty acres of the original farm. He married Miss Mary P. Bruce, daughter of one of the oldest settlers in this section, on the 16th of November, 1879. They have one child, named Arthur B.

JOHN MINETT was born on the 6th of December, 1852, in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin. He left his father's home at the age of twenty years, and engaged in the cooper business at Lake Superior, Michigan, for about three years. Then came to Minnesota and located on a farm in section five, Getty township, which he has since made his home. He spent some time working on the extension of the Manitoba railroad, and in freighting to Dakota Territory. He married Miss Mary Gaid, on the 1st of March, 1881, and has lived on his farm since that time.

BENJAMIN W. VEEDER, a native of Fulton county, New York, was born on the 9th of September,

1835. At the age of eleven years, his parents moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, where his father died the same year, the family continuing to reside on the farm. In 1863, Mr. Veeder came to Olmsted county, Minnesota, farming and teaching school while a resident of that county, and filling, with credit to himself, several town offices. In 1866, he came to Stearns county, and located a farm on section sixteen, Getty township, where he now lives, engaged in farming, teaching school, and acting as real estate agent and Notary Public. He has held some local office ever since being a resident of the town, and is now Town Clerk and Justice of the Peace, having held the former office five years.

## GROVE.

### CHAPTER XCVIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Grove is situated in the northwest part of the county, and embraces township 125 north, range 33 west, and is chiefly prairie, although containing a number of oak groves with an undergrowth of hazel brush. The soil varies from a light sandy to a black loam, and is very productive. Its area is about 23,040 acres, of which 4,360 are under cultivation.

The first to settle in this township were Henry and Xavier Schaefer and Joseph Maly, in the fall of 1858. The Schaefer brothers took land in sections seventeen and eighteen, remained about eight years and moved to Iowa, where they now reside. Mr. Maly settled in sections five and eight and still lives there. The population was augmented the following spring by the arrival of Henry and Herman Meyer and their widowed mother, August Illies, G. P. Steward, and Joseph Nahite. Henry Meyer located in section twenty, his brother in section nineteen, Mrs. Meyer in sections seventeen and eight, August Illies in section thirty, and G. P. Steward in section six. During the following year a considerable number of settlers arrived, and since then the growth has been steady, the population numbering 726, according to the last census.

This town was organized by the County Commissioners in 1867, and the first election held on the fourth of April, 1868, in the house of Peter





Herbrand, then residing on section twenty-nine. The result of that election was the following officers: Supervisors, Gerlaard Terhaar, Chairman, Charles Pfeiffer, and John Priunis; Clerk, James Duncan; and Treasurer, Barney Schwieters.

The town is divided into three school districts, number fifty-one being the first organized, about 1866.

Owing to the organization of new districts, the old school house, formerly in number fifty-one, is now in number one hundred and three, and located at the little village of Meire's Grove.

There is also a German Catholic Church at this place, Father Meinulph Stnekenkemper being the priest in charge.

The agricultural report of 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 47,406 bushels; oats, 28,379 bushels; corn, 5,692 bushels; barley, 743 bushels; rye, 129 bushels; buckwheat, 2 bushels; potatoes, 5,244 bushels; beans, 11 bushels; sugar cane, 35 gallons; wild hay, 1,351 tons; apples, 26 bushels; tobacco, 143 pounds; wool, 978 pounds; butter, 16,750 pounds; cheese, 30 pounds; and honey, 75 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN BLONIGEN was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, on the 6th of January, 1856. His parents came to St. Martin township in 1860, and located near the village, where they are still living. John attended school at St. Martin until thirteen years of age, after which he worked on the farm until about nineteen years of age; then attended the Normal School at St. Cloud for three years, completing nearly a full course. Mr. Blonigen has since devoted himself to school teaching in different parts of this county. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Walz, a native of Illinois, on the 28th of February, 1881.

JAMES DUNCAN, one of the oldest settlers, and the first Town Clerk of Grove township, is a native of Scotland, born on the 17th of March, 1816. His father was a merchant, and pursued his calling in different portions of Great Britain, until his death, which occurred in Ireland, when James was but an infant. He learned the shoemaker's trade in the old country, while yet a boy. In 1833, he came to New York City, where he served an apprenticeship to the trade of plasterer and stone and brick mason, and in 1837, began business as a contractor and builder. Meeting with reverses, in 1841, he went to Sullivan county, New York, where he arrived with less than ten dollars in his

pocket. He soon found work at his trade, and in 1849, had accumulated sufficient means to enable him to purchase a mill and some land. Mr. Duncan resided there until 1862, when he came to Hastings, Minnesota, and thence, in 1864, to his present residence. He was married to Miss M. Hamilton, in New York City. Mrs. Duncan is also of Scotch parentage.

G. W. DUNCAN, son of James Duncan, was born at Forestburg, Sullivan county, New York, on the 18th of February, 1851. He came with the family to Grove township in 1864, and still resides on the old homestead, having charge of his father's farm. In 1872, he was elected Town Clerk, which position he held four years and is now Justice of the Peace. Mr. Duncan was united in marriage with Miss Fannie E. Getty, daughter of J. J. Getty, one of the first settlers in this portion of the county, on the 31st of October, 1877. They have two children; Jennie Permelia and James Jerome.

ANTON ELTRICH, a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born on the 11th of December, 1842. He received a liberal education in the public schools of his native country. He enlisted in 1857, in the Papal Army in the city of Rome, in a company of Grenadiers belonging to the staff. His term of enlistment was four years, but after serving two years, there being a cessation of war for a time, he was mustered out of service. After this he went into a company of cavalry of the army of Bavaria. Here he spent six years in active service, and was mustered out in 1867. Then he acted as a servant for Count Von Hoeslin for three years. In 1870, he emigrated to the United States, and after a short stay in New York, went to Detroit, Michigan, where for several years he was engaged in various pursuits. He came to Minnesota in 1872, and soon after, to St. Cloud. Commenced teaching school in 1876, and continues in that profession. He married Miss Mary Fisher, on the 4th of May, 1875, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. They have four children.

AUGUST ILLES, for twenty-two years a resident of Grove township, is a native of Westphalia, and was born in August, 1824. When a young man he went to work on a farm, which was his employment for twelve years at an annual salary of from sixteen to eighteen dollars. He thus saved enough money to pay his passage to America; whither he came in 1856, settling in Clayton county, Iowa, where he lived three years. In the spring of 1859, he came to Grove township and located his pres-



ent farm, there being at the time but two residents in the township, and Mr. Illies was the first man to perfect a claim title. During the first winter, owing to scarcity of provisions, he was compelled to subsist for a time on roasted corn and game. Mr. Illies was married on the 12th of February, 1868, to Mrs. Annie Stevens. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living.

JAMES MEAGHER, a native of Montreal, Canada, was born on the 7th of June, 1856, where he lived with his parents until 1858, when the family emigrated to the United States, and located near St. Cloud, Minnesota. The family removed to the farm on which James now resides, located in section fifteen, in the spring of 1862. His father, Thomas Meagher, died on the 15th of April, 1875. His mother married a second husband and is living in Sauk Centre, while Mr. Meagher has come into possession of the old home. He married Miss Margaret Hyder on the 26th of May, 1880. They have one child.

REV. MEINULPH STUCKENKEMPER, a priest in Stearns county for the last eighteen years, was born in Westphalia, Prussia, on the 17th of January, 1837. When but a child, he came to America with his parents who settled in St. Louis, Missouri. He prepared for college, and pursued his classical and theological studies at St. Vincents', Pennsylvania, after which he was ordained on the 20th of June, 1861. He then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and thence, after a few years, to Stearns county, where he has labored most of the time since. He built the church of the "Immaculate Conception," in St. Cloud, and also, the church of New Munich, and formed the congregation of St. Joseph's parish, in Minneapolis. Father Meinulph came to "St. John's Church," at Meier's Grove, in February, 1881, where he still resides.

JOSEPH MALY, JR. is a native of Bohemia, born on the 31st of March, 1839. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Ziony) Maly, who brought the family to America in 1852, settling in Racine, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1858, and came to Minnesota, arriving at the site of their present farm on the 24th of August. Joseph Jr. resides on a farm adjoining that of his father. He was a soldier in the Northern army during the civil war, was mustered in in 1864, and served about thirteen months. Miss Annie Crnak became the wife of Mr. Maly, on the 17th of December, 1865; she is also a native of Bohemia.

JOSEPH NATHE was born in Westphalia, Prussia,

on the 8th of September, 1836. At the age of twenty years he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade and served an apprenticeship of two years. On the 20th of October, 1857, he left Europe for Milwaukee, Wisconsin, residing at the latter place and St. Louis, until coming to Grove township, in October, 1859. Mr. Nathe was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Marto, of New Munich, on the 22d of August, 1830. They have had eight children, six of whom are living.

CASPER NAITTE was born in Germany, in about the year 1840, where he grew up on a farm, taking an interest in agricultural pursuits. He emigrated to America in 1859, locating in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for two years, then moved to his present farm in section twenty, Grove township, in 1861. He has about three hundred acres of land, all prairie, except about eighty acres which is covered with a good growth of timber. He married Miss Gertrude Serfas, who was born in Germany. They have ten children. Their son Peter died in 1863, at the age of four years.

## HOLDING.

### CHAPTER XCIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—MERCANTILE—MANUFACTURES—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Holding is situated in the northeast portion of the county, and adjoins Brockway on the west. It embraces township 126 north, range 30 west, and the south six sections of township 127, range 30. The surface is generally covered with timber, except at Holdingsford, where there is a prairie of a few hundred acres in extent.

Two River crosses the western portion of the town in a northerly direction, passing through Two River Lake, which lies in the southwest corner. Spunk brook crosses the southeastern part, running in a northeasterly direction, and a number of smaller creeks take their rise in the swamps, of which there are quite a number, and join these water courses in their passage through the town. The soil is a rich black loam, with a clay sub-soil.

Randolph Holding, whose name the town bears, has the honor of being the first permanent settler, having made a claim at what is now called Hold-

and the American Medical Association. The American Medical Association is the largest and most influential organization of medical professionals in the United States. It was founded in 1847 and has since then been a leading voice in the medical profession. The association's primary purpose is to advance the interests of the medical profession and to improve the quality of medical care. It does this through a variety of means, including the publication of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the organization of medical conferences, and the provision of medical education and training. The association also plays a significant role in the development of medical standards and regulations. It is a member of the World Medical Association and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. The association's membership is open to all medical professionals who are qualified to practice medicine. It is a non-profit organization and its funds are used for the benefit of the medical profession and the public. The association's headquarters are located in Chicago, Illinois. It has a long and distinguished history and is a respected and influential organization in the medical community.

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ingsford, as early as May, 1868. He was soon followed by Casper Fox, I. Moch, Isam Hall, S. A. Blood, Jacob Hoffer, and Henry Young, who settled near Mr. Holding. The following year witnessed quite an immigration, prominent among whom were, James Hall, G. W. Bolton, Alexander Stewart, Joseph E. Fugate, and Henry and John Sand. Nearly all of the old settlers yet remain.

The first school was kept by S. A. Blood in the winter of 1872-73. There are now five schools in the town, in which school is kept during the usual terms.

The first religious service was held at the residence of Isam Hall, in 1872, by Rev. Mr. Nellis.

The first child born was Virginia Hall, in 1870.

The first death was Mary F. Farrell, aged six years, in 1871.

The first marriage was in 1872, the parties being William Branham and Miss Anna Baker.

Holding has an area of 26,880 acres, of which 1,157 are under cultivation, and the population, according to the last census, was 603.

It was a part of Brookway until 1870, when a separate organization was effected, and the town named in honor of its founder.

**HOLDINGSFORD**—This place derives its name from the first settler, and the fact of this being a fording point on the Two River before any bridges were built. In 1874, Mr. Holding surveyed and platted about twenty acres, and gave to the village the above appropriate name. Two years before this he had opened a store here, and soon after was appointed Postmaster, which position he still holds, and also carries on his mercantile business.

A. C. Smith opened a general store in 1877, but discontinued it after six months.

William Murphy also opened a general store, in 1878, but abandoned the enterprise at the end of two years.

In 1875, R. B. Young & Son built a lumber and a flouring mill which they run till 1877. The flouring mill was then moved to Morrison county, and the lumber mill sold to R. Holding, who in turn sold it to Ward Brothers, the present owners, in 1878. They have recently enlarged and improved it, adding a flouring mill with three run of stones.

A steam saw-mill was built by William Murphy in 1879, which is now being successfully operated.

A Stave factory was built on section twenty-nine, about the same time, by Clark, Waite, and Montgomery, which is also in successful operation.

The following products are reported from Hold-

ing for the year 1880; wheat, 11,832 bushels; oats, 7,204 bushels; corn, 1,490 bushels; barley, 25 bushels; potatoes, 2,117 bushels; beans, 25 bushels; cultivated hay, 64 tons; wild hay, 576 tons; timothy seed, 3 bushels; tobacco, 45 pounds; wool, 563 pounds; butter, 5,220 pounds; and honey, 225 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

**SAMUEL A. BLOOD**, of Cuyahoga county, Ohio, was born on the 7th of June, 1837. He left the home of his childhood at the age of twenty-one years, and came to Minnesota, locating at St. Cloud, which was then but a rude hamlet. After remaining about nine years, he removed to the unorganized township of Holding, and located on section eight. He has a farm of 160 acres in a good state of cultivation. Mr. Blood has always taken an active part in town and school affairs, has been Chairman of the board of Supervisors, for three years and held other minor offices. He was married on the 19th of October, 1859, to Miss Mary A. Lane, of New York State. They have had eight children, six of whom are living; William A., Clifton A., Nettie, Nora, Calvin, and Edith. Mr. Blood was in the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry during the Indian war. He was accompanied by two of his brothers, one of whom was killed and the other severely wounded while fighting the Indians. He was one of the detailed number to adjust the ropes around the necks of the thirty-eight Indians who were executed at Mankato in the year 1863.

**JAMES HALL** was born in Scioto county, Ohio, on the 3d of March, 1846. His father moved to Virginia soon after James' birth, and the subject of this sketch resided on a farm until the breaking out of the civil war. On the 14th of September, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, of the 39th Kentucky Mounted Infantry, participated in a number of closely contested battles, and was mustered out at Louisville, in September, 1865. He then returned to his old home in Virginia, but came to Minnesota in 1869. After remaining a few months in Meeker county, he came to Holding township and selected his present farm on section ten. Mr. Hall was married in 1863, to Miss Catharine Payne, who is a native of Virginia. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living, five daughters and two sons.

**JOSEPH E. FUGATE** dates his birth in Pendleton county, Kentucky, on the 7th of April, 1847. When a lad, he removed with his parents to Ver-



million county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. Mr. Fugate came to Minnesota in 1868, and located on section thirty-two, where he now has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in a fine state of cultivation. When he came to this township it was in a wild state, the only white man to be seen being an occasional hunter. In 1875, he lost his right leg from a wound inflicted by a ball from a gun in the hands of one John Bolton. He married Eliza J. Chesney, of Morrison county, Minnesota, on the 24th of November, 1875. They have two children; Lethe M. and Alanson.

RANDOLPH HOLDING, the founder of the township which bears his name, was born in McHenry county, Illinois, on the 27th of July, 1844. He removed with his parents, in 1854, to the state of Michigan, where he remained until 1861, when he came to Minnesota and located at Clearwater. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which he served three years. On his return from the army, in 1865, he visited his old home in Michigan, remaining eight months, then came west and until 1868, was engaged in freighting on the Red River road from St. Cloud to Red River. In May, 1868, he first visited this, then a wild region, and located on section eight of what is now Holding township, being the first white man to locate in the town. He has five hundred acres of choice farming land, including the only prairie in this section, of which about one hundred and forty acres are in a good state of cultivation. The rapid development of the township is largely due to his untiring energy. Because of this early start, and its peculiar advantages, this town bids fair to be one of the best agricultural towns in the State. At the organization of the town he was elected Clerk, which office he has filled ever since, with the exception of one year. In 1872, he effected the organization of school district number ninety-three, and the same year was instrumental in establishing a Post-office, of which he has been the Postmaster ever since. In 1878, he platted a town site which also bears his name. He has been Notary Public for the last six years, the only one in the town, and was a member of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature in 1872. Mr. Holding married Miss Lavinia L. Trask, of Morrison county, Minnesota, on the 6th day of July, 1870. Their children are, Albert C., William R., and Adelbert E.

HARVEY MORGAN, one of the early settlers of

Holding township, was born in Letcher county, Kentucky, on the 3d of December, 1843. In early childhood, he removed with his parents to Scioto county, Ohio. In 1869, he moved to Meeker county, Minnesota, where he remained till the spring of 1870, when he removed to Holding town, taking a homestead of eighty acres, to which he has recently added by purchasing eighty acres, and now has one of the best developed farms in this part of the town. He served three years in the Union army. Married Miss Jennie Adams, of Scioto county, Ohio, in October, 1861. They have had five children, Thomas, Sherman, Rilda, Lizzie, and Isam. His wife died in March, 1872, and in October, 1873, he married Miss Rosie Watson, of Meeker county, who is his present wife.

GEORGE W. MILNER was born in Vermillion county, Illinois, on the 24th of July, 1855. Came to Minnesota in 1866 with his parents, who settled in Maine Prairie. His father was killed by highwaymen near Indianapolis, Indiana, while on a visit to a brother in that locality. Mr. Milner located on section thirty-two, in 1879, and now resides there. He married Miss Martha Chesney on the 4th of July, 1877. They have two children, Sarah A. and Thomas W.

## KRAIN.

Krain is situated in the northeast portion of the county, and adjoins Holding on the west. It has an area of about 28,800 acres, of which 569 are under cultivation. The surface is chiefly covered with timber, there being a few sections of prairie, with a light growth of brush in the western part. There are a number of small lakes, and a considerable acreage of swamp land, the latter being covered with a good growth of tamarack.

William Henry Helsper was, undoubtedly, the first settler in this town. He is a native of Prussia, and settled on section eighteen in 1868, and still resides on the old homestead. James Graham followed Mr. Helsper the same year, and settled near him; he also resides there still. James Gasperlin came the following year, and settled on section twenty-eight. The population has continued to increase, slowly, but steadily, until the last census showed a population of 214 persons.

Krain was organized in 1872, and the first officers elected were: Supervisors, W. H. Helsper,





Chairman, Mathias Pogatschnik, and John Muyres; Clerk, Joseph Gasperlin; Justice of the Peace, James Graham; and Assessor, Ulrich Schelesnik.

The first school was taught by Joseph Gasperlin, at his residence, the term commencing on the 12th of January, 1874.

The town is divided into two school districts. Number ninety eight was organized in 1874, and the school house is located on section thirty-two.

District number one hundred and fourteen was organized in the fall of 1878, and the first school kept by Cyrus S Brock. The building is situated in section twenty.

There is a German Catholic church on section twenty-two. Father Bernard is Pastor, visiting the town once a month.

The report of 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 7,232 bushels; oats, 1,035 bushels; corn, 655 bushels; rye, 25 bushels; potatoes, 994 bushels; wild hay, 552 tons; apples, 5 bushels; wool, 199 pounds; and butter, 4,920 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES GRAHAM was born in the year 1844, in Tipperary county, Ireland, where he lived till seven years of age, when the family emigrated to America. Soon after reaching this country, the family located in Vinton county, Ohio, where they remained for about four years. Here the subject of this sketch attended school for a number of years. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and located on a farm near Monticello, Wright county, and came to section eighteen, Krain township, in 1868, where he still resides, and gives his attention to farming. He secured his land under the homestead law; has one hundred and sixty acres, one half of which is under cultivation. He is the worthy Justice of the Peace in his part of the town. Mr. Graham was married in 1873, to Miss Katie Brown, who was born in St. Paul, on the 5th of January, 1857. They have five children.

WILLIAM HENRY HELSPER was born on the 11th of September, 1824, in Alsatia, Germany. When he was about one year old his father died, after which he was taken to Nassau, on the Rhine river, where he lived till fourteen years of age, then returned to his native place, remaining about two years. Up to this period in life he had attended school most of the time. In 1846, he entered the army, serving seven years. At the expiration of his term of service, he emigrated to America, landing in New York, in the spring of 1852. Here he followed shoemaking for some time, but came to

St. Paul in 1856, and engaged in the bakery business, until 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and soon after was made Second Lieutenant. He was in several engagements with the Indians, and participated in some of the severe battles of the Rebellion. He was mustered out at Fort Snelling on the 11th of July, 1865. Came to Stearns county, and located at New Munich, where he kept a hotel till 1869, when he moved to his farm in section eighteen, Krain township. He was married in 1862, to Miss Hannah O'Donnell, who was born in Ireland. His wife died February 21st, 1875. They have had eight children, five of whom are living.

## LAKE GEORGE.

This town is situated in the southwestern portion of the county, and is chiefly a rolling prairie. The exception is in the southeast corner, around Lake George, where several sections of timber land are found. It is contained in township 124 north, range 34 west. The lake from which the town derives its name is located in the southeast part; it is about two miles long, and varies from sixty to one hundred and sixty rods in width. The soil of the township is a black loam with a clay sub-soil, and is very productive. Its area is 23,040 acres, 2,719 being under cultivation.

The honor of being the first settler in this township belongs to Gerhard Stalboerger. He is a native of Germany, came to America in 1852, and after remaining a short time in Iowa, came to Minnesota, and settled on his present farm in 1856. John Felling followed the same summer and took a claim on section twenty-four, where he now resides. Others soon followed, but the population has not increased as fast as some of the adjoining towns; the census of 1880 showing but 185 persons.

The territory now embraced in Lake George township was a part of Verdale on its organization in 1858. It subsequently became a part of St. Martin, and later, of Spring Hill; its present organization was effected in 1877, and the first election held at the house of Michael Collins on section eleven. The first officers were: Supervisors, Gerhard Stalboerger, Chairman, Mathias Schneider, and Thomas Wilson; Clerk, Michael



Collins; Treasurer, Mathias Weber; and Constable, Peter Kuller; thirteen votes were cast.

The first marriage in the town was in 1857, the parties being Gerhard Stalboerger and Miss Anna Mayer. Their eldest child was the first birth in the town, in the fall of 1859, and was also the first death, the infant dying at the age of three months.

The first school was taught by Miss Katie Mary Frank about 1868.

There is but one school, district number sixty-two, organized in 1869, the school-house is situated in section twenty-four.

The products of Lake George in 1880 were: wheat, 20,838 bushels; oats, 8,353 bushels; corn, 820 bushels; barley, 754 bushels; potatoes, 632 bushels; wild hay, 983 tons; apples, 22 bushels; wool, 322 pounds; and butter, 7,010 pounds.

## LAKE HENRY.

### CHAPTER C.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — SCHOOLS — RELIGIOUS — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Lake Henry lies in the southwest part of the county, and has an area of about 23,000 acres, of which 4,420 are under cultivation, embracing the whole of township 123 north, range 33 west. With the exception of some light timber along the banks of Lake Henry, the town is a smooth prairie, somewhat undulating. The soil is chiefly a rich black loam with a clay subsoil. The only lake of any importance is Lake Henry, lying on sections ten and fifteen. It is about one and a half miles long with an average width of about one quarter of a mile.

The first man to make a claim in this town was Xavier Popping, a native of Prussia. He came to this then uninhabited region in 1855, and selected a home on sections ten and eleven, where the family still reside. Mr. Popping died on the 22d of September, 1872.

Michael Kraemer came in 1856, and settled near the south end of Lake Henry, where he still lives. These are undoubtedly the first two settlers.

The population, for a number of years, increased very slowly, owing to the distance from market, and the open prairie country which was objected

to by many on account of the frequent severe storms in winter. During late years, however, the railroad has been extended west through the county, thus affording better facilities for the shipment of grain, and the winter storms have become less frequent and severe, and as a result, the population is now increasing quite rapidly, the census of 1880 showing 346 persons.

This town was a part of Verdale, and afterwards, of several other towns, until 1869, when its own organization was completed.

The first election was held at the residence of Xavier Popping, but the records are not to be found, and consequently a full list of the town officials elected at that meeting cannot be obtained. Xavier Popping was the first Chairman of Supervisors, and Mathias Gross was the first Justice of the Peace and Town Clerk.

The town is divided into two school districts. The first school was kept by Frederick Rupp in 1869. He conducted the school about three years, and the scholars were gathered from every settled portion of the township.

The second district was organized in 1880, and a good school building erected in section twenty-seven.

The first organized district was number twenty-four. The school house was situated on section two, where it still remains.

Lake Henry, with the exception of one or two American families, is inhabited by Germans, nearly all of whom are Catholics. The first mass held in the town was at the residence of Mr. Popping, by the well known German missionary, Father Pierz, in 1855. There is a substantial frame church now being completed in section fourteen.

According to the agricultural report of 1880, the products of Lake Henry were: wheat, 51,730 bushels; oats, 24,590 bushels; corn, 2,275 bushels; barley, 940 bushels; potatoes, 2,810 bushels; wild hay, 1,468 tons; apples, 26 bushels; wool, 183 pounds; and butter, 13,290 pounds.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WALTER LORIN GRAY, a native of Wesley, Maine, was born on the 15th of February, 1854. His parents moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1861, where he attended school for about four years. In the spring of 1865, came to Stearns county, and lived with Mr. John E. Hayward in St. Cloud for five years, and at the age of sixteen years went to work in the pineries. He followed lumbering and logging until about 1879, when he came to his pres-





ent farm in section twenty-eight, Lake Henry township. He has one hundred and sixty acres, thirty-five of which are under cultivation. He was married on the 19th of August, 1874, to Miss Ella Ady, who was born at Elk River, Sherburne county, Minnesota. They have three children.

PETER HENRY SCHOMER, a native of Luxemburg, Holland, was born on the 24th of July, 1849, where he lived and attended school until he was eighteen years of age. Mr. Schomer is a graduate of Luxemburg College, both of the collegiate and commercial departments. He graduated in 1866, going the same year to a college at Bristol, England, from which institution he graduated as a Professor of Languages. In 1868, he came to America, finding his way to Dakota county, Minnesota, and was engaged in teaching school in that and Ramsey counties for the next six years. He came to Stearns county in 1874, and with the exception of one year's absence in the South, has taught school here ever since. During his southern trip, his family suffered from that dreadful disease, Yellow Fever, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mr. Schomer is now teaching school in District twenty-four, Lake Henry township. He was married in 1876, to Miss Katie Fuchs, who was born in Stearns county, in 1854. They have been blessed with four children.

## LE SAUK.

### CHAPTER CI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT —  
ORGANIZATION — SCHOOLS — MANUFACTURING —  
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Le Sauk is situated in the northeastern part of the county, having the Mississippi river for its eastern boundary, and lying between Brockway and St. Cloud townships.

The surface is undulating, and generally covered with timber and light brush.

There is a small prairie in the south part containing about two thousand acres, and also a small one in the northeast.

The Watab river crosses the town in an easterly direction a little south of the center, and furnishes some good meadow and grazing land. The Sauk river crosses the extreme southeastern part, in a northerly direction.

The area of Le Sauk is about 12,160 acres, of which 2,366 are under cultivation.

Following the Indian traders already mentioned in this work, was Philip Beaupre, now a resident of Sauk Rapids, who made the first claim with a view to improvement, as early as 1850. He did not remain long, however, and in fact, lived at Sauk Rapids a great portion of the time until 1852, when he went to Pembina, but returned in 1855, and lived on his old claim four years. In 1855, Samuel Cox Johnston settled on section five, and still resides there. William Connell, Adam Langer, Joseph B. Sartell, and others, settled here in 1856, and the three former have occupied the old homesteads ever since. The population in 1880 was 293.

The territory comprising Le Sauk was formerly embraced in the townships of Brockway and St. Cloud, but separately organized in 1860, and the first election held at the house of Harvey Sawyer, on the 1st of October. The first officials elected were: Supervisors, Harvey Sawyer, Chairman, Joseph B. Sartell, and Joel Bailey; Clerk, Joel Bailey; Treasurer, Appleton Webb; and Justices of the Peace, S. Putnam and Philip Beaupre. Joel Bailey was also elected School Superintendent of the township, in accordance with the school system of that day.

The first school taught was by Elbert Hodgden, in the government blacksmith shop at the Winnebago Agency, but the exact date cannot be obtained. The town is now divided into four school districts, in three of which the regular terms are kept, but no school has been held in the other for several years.

Le Sauk contains two flouring mills, one saw mill, one cheese factory, and one cooper shop.

The flouring mill situated on the Sauk river, near its junction with the Mississippi, and owned by F. Arnold, was erected in 1876, and commenced running the following season. It is 50x60 feet and four stories high; contains seven run of stones, and has a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels per day. Twelve men are employed in and about the mill.

The other mills are on the Watab river, and are not steadily operated.

The cheese factory is on the stock farm of N. P. Clarke. This farm is known as the "Meadow Lawn Farm," and is the finest stock farm in the State; contains 4,000 acres, 400 head of cattle, and



100 horses, and is operated by the owner, who resides in St. Cloud.

The products of Le Sauk, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 20,963 bushels; oats, 13,583 bushels; corn, 7,260 bushels; barley, 78 bushels; rye, 150 bushels; potatoes, 2,250 bushels; beans, 9 bushels; sugar cane, 45 gallons; cultivated hay, 150 tons; wild hay, 1,054 tons; apples, 39 bushels; tobacco, 5 pounds; wool, 435 pounds; butter, 9,875 pounds; cheese, 2,160 pounds; and honey, 3,815 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANCIS ARNOLD was born in Germany, on the 20th of January, 1821. He enjoyed the privileges of the common school in his native land. In 1850, came to the United States, and spent the first year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Chicago, Illinois. In 1851, moved to La Porte, Indiana, where he was engaged in the milling business. Came to Minnesota in 1857, principally for his health, spending three years in the western portion of the State. In 1860, he came to Stearns county, and bought an interest in the flouring mill of Hayes and Mrs. Fletcher. In the spring of 1864, he bought out Hayes' interest, and the following year, a Mr. Simms bought Mrs. Fletcher's interest, and the firm was known as Arnold and Simms. In 1868, Mr. Stanton bought Mr. Simms' interest, when the firm was changed to Arnold and Stanton. In 1875, Mr. Stanton withdrew, since which time Arnold has been the sole proprietor. He married Miss Hattie Koutz, of Pennsylvania, in 1855. They have six children living; Hattie, Gertrude, Doru, Francis J., Henry, and Sarah.

MRS. CATHERINE A. COX, the widow of William P. Cox, was born at Shippensburg, Clarion county, Pennsylvania, on the 25th of March, 1830. She obtained a common school education in her youth, and married W. P. Cox, at the age of sixteen. He was born in Centre county, Pennsylvania, on the 21st of February, 1821. Mr. Cox was a forgerman by trade. He came with his family to St. Cloud, Minnesota, in 1866, and soon after took a homestead in section twenty-six, in the town of Brockway, where the family lived from the spring of 1867 to the fall of 1879, when they moved to the farm on which they now live, in the town of Le Sauk. Mr. Cox was in the service of his country nearly the entire period of the war, and Wardmaster nearly four years of the time. He died in the fall of 1880, leaving a family of three children. The oldest, a daughter, is married and

lives at Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota; the second, a son, is in the lumbering business; the youngest, William G., is at home carrying on the home farm and providing for his widowed mother.

WILLIAM CONNELL was born in Derry county, Ireland, on the 9th of April, 1816, where he lived till sixteen years of age, attending the common schools. Then he learned the baker business, and followed it till he came to the United States. He landed in New York in 1833, came to Chicago in 1838, and thence to Fort Snelling in 1840. He soon after went to Galena, Illinois, and was employed in the lead mines at that place for nine years. Then returned to Swan River, Minnesota, where he lived one year, and after spending some time in other localities, settled at Sauk Rapids, and was Sheriff of Benton county for two years. In October, 1856, he came to what is now Le Sauk township, and selected his present farm on section thirty-four. He is Justice of the Peace, and has held the position four or five terms. Soon after coming to this country (in 1835) Mr. Connell enlisted in the regular army, and served about four months in the Florida war. He was married to Miss Ann McCanna, on the 6th of July, 1853. They have had seven children, six of whom are living. The four oldest daughters are teaching school, and the youngest, a Miss of thirteen years, is at home. The son also resides with his parents.

MATTHIAS ENGELS was born in Myer, Germany, in the year 1811. Came with his parents to the United States, and located in Wisconsin in the fall of 1846, where he lived until 1854, and moved to Sauk Rapids, where he lived for one year, then removed to a farm in the town of St. Joseph, and lived there till the fall of 1880, when he came to his present home. His brother Peter enlisted in the late civil war, in Company G, of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Barrett. His father died in June, 1872, in the town of St. Joseph. He was married in 1876, to Miss Mary Heisler, who was born in Iowa. They have two little girls, one four years old and the other two.

JOHN PERSCHWEILER, a native of Trier, Germany, was born on the 28th of October, 1843, where he lived with his parents till thirteen years of age, when the family came to Minnesota and located on a farm in section twenty-nine, town of Le Sauk. Here he lived with his father till he





enlisted on the 17th of August, 1864, at St. Cloud, in Company G, of the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He first went to Nashville, Tennessee, but returned to Fort Snelling on the 29th of June, 1865, and was mustered out on the 11th of July following. He returned to this town and now owns a farm of one hundred and forty acres adjoining his father's farm, and also a tract of timber land containing eighty acres, in the town of Brockway. He was married to Miss Catharine Iten, who was born in Switzerland. They have five children, three boys and two girls.

ASA G. HART was born in Madison county, New York, on the 3d of May, 1821, but lived most of the time in Orleans county until he was fifteen years of age, when he went to Lenawee county, Michigan, and remained till 1856, and then moved to Cedar county, Iowa. In 1860, he came to St. Cloud township, Minnesota, and in the fall of 1865, moved to his present farm in the town of Le Sauk. He has eighty acres in section twenty-eight, and twenty-six acres in section twenty-seven. He has a good farm, well adapted to grain raising. He was married to Miss Amy Foot in 1841. She was born in New York. They have three children. The oldest son, Edward, was in the Union army three years during the late civil war. He was in Company I, of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles at Mobile, Alabama, and at Nashville, Tennessee.

SAMUEL COX JOHNSTON, a native of Onondaga county, New York, was born on the 23d of March, 1826. He was raised on a farm, receiving such education as the schools of the locality afforded, and afterwards ran on the Erie Canal during his minority. He then ran a barge on the Oswego line and Hudson river until the fall of 1855, when he came to Minnesota and settled on his present farm. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a Sergeant in Company I, of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He accompanied General Sibley on his expedition against the Indians, and in the fall of 1863, was ordered south, spending the winter in St. Louis. The summer of 1864 was spent with the army in Kentucky and Mississippi, where he took part in several engagements. He was mustered out at Fort Snelling in August, 1865. Mr. Johnston was united in marriage with Miss Fatima M. Hay, in April, 1847. She was born in New York State, where she received an academical education. Since Mr. Johnston's residence in Le Sauk, he has been Chairman of Supervisors,

Justice of the Peace, Town Treasurer, and held a number of other local offices.

ROSS RICHARDS was born in Michigan on the 16th of March, 1848. His father moved to Racine, Wisconsin, when Ross was only one year old. The subject of our sketch lived in this place, enjoying common school privileges, till 1876, when he came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he stayed for one year, engaged in training horses. In 1877, he moved to St. Cloud, where he also followed horse training until the fall of 1880, when he accepted the position of manager of the stock farm of N. P. Clarke, located in the town of Le Sauk. He was married to Miss Lydia Greene in 1876, who was born in Wisconsin. Mr. Richards was in the late war, enlisting in January, 1864, in Company G, of the Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Giddings. Was first ordered to Nashville, Tennessee, and took part in the battle at Peach Orchard; was in Sherman's "March to the Sea," and mustered out of service in July, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky.

JOHN SCHAFER was born on the 23d of September, 1842, in the Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany. He came with his father to the United States in 1851. After living a short time in several places, came to his present farm, located on section nineteen, in May, 1856. Mr. Schafer never enjoyed any school advantages, but by improving his leisure hours and long winter evenings, has acquired a fair knowledge of the English language and a large amount of general information. He enlisted in September, 1862, in Company D, of the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, under Captain Taylor. He was first ordered to Fort Abercrombie, and soon after to Fort Ripley on the Mississippi river; was in the battle at Big Mound, and Buffalo Lake, and on an expedition against the Indians as far as Bismarck on the Missouri river, then back to Fort Snelling after a campaign of thirteen months. He was married on the 3d of October, 1869, to Miss Bertha Klopffleish, who was born in Illinois. They have two children.

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## LUXEMBURG.

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This town lies in the southern part of the county, and has an area of 23,010 acres, of which 1,846 are under cultivation.



The surface of this town is mostly covered with brush, except where removed for agricultural purposes. There is a considerable acreage of swamp land, and a number of small lakes. The soil varies from a dark to a clayey loam with a clay subsoil.

The first settler in this town was Nicholas Post, who came in 1861, and settled on section sixteen, where he now lives. He was followed during the same year by Paul Ryzek, Thomas Wirtzfeld, Cornelius Lutzen, Peter Weiler, and John Schrifels. The settlement has not been very rapid, the population in 1880 being but 299.

The town was organized in 1866, having been a part of Wakefield prior to that time.

The first Supervisors were: Nicholas Post, Chairman, C. Lutzen, and Nicholas Maurin. The Clerk was John Loesch. The town was named by Mr. Post in honor of his birthplace in Germany.

The first school was taught in 1867. There are now three schools in the township. There is also a German Catholic church on section two, erected in 1859. A Post-office was established near the church in 1878; John P. Schmidt is the Postmaster.

The agricultural report of 1880, shows the following product: wheat, 17,351 bushels; oats, 6,386 bushels; corn, 1,311 bushels; potatoes, 1,956 bushels; wild hay, 418 tons; wool, 260 pounds; and butter, 2,836 pounds.

## LYNDEN.

### CHAPTER CII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—EARLY WEDDINGS—ORGANIZATION—MILLS—FATAL ACCIDENT—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—SOCIETIES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Lynden is the most southeastern town in the county. It has an area of 15,360 acres, of which 1,830 are under cultivation.

The surface is undulating and generally covered with a light growth of timber or brush, except where removed by the hands of the husbandman. The soil is mostly a light sandy loam, but quite productive.

T. C. Porter and John Townsend made the first claims in what is now the town of Lynden, in 1853. Their claims were made in sections twenty and

twenty-one, on land now owned by W. T. Rigby and G. B. Benson. Mr. Porter sold his interest to Townsend, the following year, for ten dollars; it was subsequently pre-empted by Joseph and Peter Townsend, brothers of John, who had also arrived in 1853. Porter and the Townsends were natives of Pennsylvania, the former coming to Minnesota before the Territorial organization. Jonathan and William Dallas, natives of Indiana, settled on section four, in 1854; the former is deceased, and the latter resides in Washington Territory. Abel Hent, wife, and four daughters, accompanied by J. W. Stevenson, came from Ohio, in 1855, and settled on sections nine and ten. Tradition says, T. C. Porter ferried the young ladies across the Clearwater river on his back, and escorted them to their new home.

J. W. Stevenson was married to Emma Hent in the fall of that year. Simon Stevens, another pioneer, lashed two Indian canoes together and took the wedding party across the Mississippi river, and the ceremony was performed on the east bank of the stream, between sundown and dark, by John H. Stevenson, Justice of the Peace of Sherburne then Benton county. As soon as they were declared man and wife, a party of pioneers secreted in the timber near by, fired a salute in honor of the event.

Joseph Townsend and Harriet Ball were married in October of the same year, by the same official and under similar circumstances, there being no Clergyman or Justice of the Peace in this town at that time. The first ceremony performed in the town, was the marriage of A. B. Darling to Jerusha Ingalls, on the 19th of March, 1858.

In 1856, the population was increased by the arrival of S. A. Clifford, W. D. Davis, Truman Parcher, L. C. Johnson, Martin Johnson, Stephen Oyster, E. G. Mathews, and others. The population in 1880 had increased to 286 persons.

The first child born was a son of Peter Townsend, named Byron, in August, 1856.

The first death was J. W. Stevenson, to whom reference has just been made as the principal in the first marriage ceremony. He died on the 14th of September, 1856.

The first school was taught by J. Kingsley, of Vermont, in the winter of 1858-59, in a shanty which had been erected for a groggery. The first school house was built in the summer following, the funds being raised by subscription, and Mar-





ietta Vorse taught the first school therein. The building is now used for a town-hall.

The first election was held at the house of S. A. Clifford, in October, 1857, in what was then called Clearwater precinct. S. A. Clifford, Truman Parcher, and Martin Johnson were judges of election, and A. C. Powers and W. D. Davis were clerks.

The town was organized on the 15th of January, 1859, and the first election held on that day at the house of John McDonald, now owned and occupied by Abijah Whitney. A preliminary meeting had been held in 1858, and the name of Corning chosen for the new town, but at the first annual meeting, the name was changed to "Lyndon," though now written "Lynden."

The first township officers were: Supervisors, Seth Gibbs, Chairman, Martin Johnson, and Truman Parcher; Clerk, W. A. Sumner; Constables, T. Heaton and F. H. Thompson; Justices of the Peace, W. T. Rigby and John McDonald; and Assessor, S. A. Clifford.

There are two school-houses in Lynden, and a graded school in Clearwater village, a part of which lies in this township, and the balance in Wright county.

There are also three church organizations, supported jointly by the citizens of Lynden and Clearwater,—Methodist, Congregational, and Catholic.

The first mill was built at the mouth of Clearwater river in 1856, but it was carried into the Mississippi river by a flood on the night before it was to commence running. The timber was used by F. Morrison the following year, in the erection of a steam saw-mill which manufactured the first lumber in the township, in the fall of that year. But, here we have to record a fatal accident. As the last board fell from the last log to be sawed that season, Alvin Wilkins was thrown upon the saw and disemboweled—split from neck to pelvis and instantly killed. At this time there was no Clergyman nearer than St. Cloud, and the funeral sermon was preached by a Mr. Fowler, an avowed infidel, but who had formerly been a preacher of the gospel.

A flouring mill was built in 1858, by Thomas C. Rogers, and another in 1860, by James Campbell.

The first gathering of any society occurred in this way: H. D. Buxton, a Freemason, died, and W. T. Rigby called together an assembly of masons in an emergent lodge for his burial. Those present consisted of, W. W. Webster, William

Vorse, S. Churmard, Robert Shaw, James Abell, and E. C. Parmele.

In October, 1858, a Masonic Lodge was organized. The first officers were: W. T. Rigby, W. M.; T. C. Rogers, S. W.; J. M. Mitchell, J. W.; S. Churmard, Treas., and W. W. Webster, Sec. At a meeting of the Lodge, held on the 20th of October, 1866, upon the suggestion of W. T. Rigby, a committee was appointed to select suitable grounds for a cemetery. The committee reported on the 3d of November following, and were instructed to file articles of incorporation for the Lodge, and in its name to purchase five and five-sixteenths acres of land in section thirty-four, and to have the same surveyed and platted for a burial place, under the name of Acassia Cemetery. This was the first ground dedicated to that purpose between Monticello and St. Cloud.

Rev. Levi Gleason was sent here by the Methodists about 1858, and soon after, the first religious society was organized. The Episcopal and Congregational Churches were also organized about the same time.

The products of Lynden, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 14,858 bushels; oats, 7,259 bushels; corn, 12,155 bushels; potatoes, 3,020 bushels; beans, 98 bushels; sugar cane, 1,240 gallons; cultivated hay, 83 tons; wild hay, 742 tons; timothy seed, 16 bushels; apples, 52 bushels; wool, 92 pounds; butter, 12,990 pounds; and honey, 215 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

SAMUEL A. CLIFFORD, a native of New Hampshire, was born in the year 1814. The family removed to Vermont while he was young. His father being a carpenter, he learned the trade at home, and followed the business until he came to Minnesota, in 1855. He farmed one year near Minneapolis; then, in 1856, removed to Lynden township, and took a homestead in section twenty-seven. He now owns a farm of two hundred and ten acres, a considerable portion of which is under cultivation. Mr. Clifford has held the office of Supervisor, County Commissioner, and been a member of the School Board for a number of years. He married Miss Zernah Blodgett, in the year 1838. The fruits of this union are six children; Franklin W., Carroll H., George C., Hiram, Laura A., and Ella.

JAMES COLGROVE was born in Hornellsville, Steuben county, New York, on the 8th of May,



1841. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, having the advantages of a district school. Came to Minnesota in 1866, and soon after, settled on his present farm, which is situated on section thirty-four and contains four hundred acres. During the first seven years of Mr. Colgrove's residence in Lynden, he was engaged in teaching school, but has since devoted his entire attention to the cultivation of his farm. He has held the office of Supervisor for eleven years, has been Town Clerk a number of terms, and is now President of the Board of Education. Mr. Colgrove was united in marriage with Miss Mary L. Stearns, of Allegany county, New York, on the 3d of July, 1863. They have had four children, three of whom are living; Mary L., Frances A., and Pitt Payson.

WILBUR F. FISK was born in Vermont, in September, 1834. He lived in his native place till 1857, when he came to Minnesota and took a claim on sections thirty and nineteen, in the township of Lynden. Mr. Fisk married Miss Sarah M. Townsend, of New York, in 1867. Their children are, Estella L. and Sarah E.

OTIS R. HEATH was born in Piscataquis county, Maine, in the year 1827. He was reared on a farm, and at the age of sixteen years, began working in a saw mill, which business he has continued the greater part of his life. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and located north of Minneapolis, on Elk river, where he conducted a saw mill for seven years. He then removed to Sauk Centre, where he worked at the carpenter trade for thirteen years, coming to this township in 1877. His farm and home is on section thirty-four. Mr. Heath was married in 1856, to Miss Agnes P. Stevens, of Maine, who died in August, 1869, leaving four children; Miriam P., Georgiana C., Agnes P., and Laura A. His present wife was Mrs. Emma A. Slattery, to whom he was married on the 20th of October, 1870.

DANIEL D. MILLER was born in Ohio, in the year 1843. He lived on a farm during boyhood. While quite young, the family moved to Iowa, engaging in agricultural pursuits. In 1868, he came to Fair Haven, Stearns county, worked in a brick yard for one year, then, in 1869, came to Lynden township and took a homestead on section twenty, where he still resides in the enjoyment of a comfortable home. He married Miss Harriet Danson in April, 1869. They have six children; Ernest C., Carrie A., Lena N., Ella C., Eddie E., and William B.

TRUMAN PARCHER is a native of Vermont, born on the 7th of April, 1811. Was employed in agricultural pursuits till about thirty years of age, when he engaged in the wheelwright and carpenter business for seven or eight years, then for about seven years, built railroad bridges in different parts of the country, east and west. He came to Minneapolis in 1855, and worked about two years at the carpenter business, then removed to Lynden township and took a claim on sections twenty-eight and thirty-three, buying enough land to make him a farm of two hundred acres, where he lives, enjoying the quiet of his country home. He married Miss Jennette R. Perkins in 1838. They had five children, three of whom are living; Frank M., Wilmot, and Wilford, the last two being twins. His wife died on the 16th of September, 1849. He married his second wife on the 7th of October, 1852. They have had five children, four of whom are living; Lilla, Ola, Robert M., and Charles A.

LUKE H. STOKES was born in England in the year 1818. Came to the United States in 1849, stopping in Westchester county, New York, where he was employed at the wagon making and carpenter business until 1865, when he removed to Minnesota, and located in Lynden township. Mr. Stokes took a claim in section twenty, making a pleasant home for himself and family. He married Miss Mary Wickling, in 1846. They have had four children, three of whom are living; George W., Mattie, and Samuel.

ALVIN TOWNSEND, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 24th of June, 1821. His early years were spent on a farm, after which he learned the carpenter trade, and followed that business till he came west, in 1855. Mr. Townsend took a claim in Lynden township, in sections twenty-seven and twenty-eight, soon after arriving in the State, and still lives on the old homestead. He is among the early settlers of the town. He married Miss Harriet Patrick, in 1846. They have had five children, two of whom are living; Sarah M. and David L.

GEORGE E. WARNER, a native of Lower Canada, was born on the 15th of November, 1826. He was reared on a farm, and followed that occupation and lumbering until 1853, when he removed to Vermont. In 1855, removed to Clearwater, Minnesota, and in 1857, settled on sections nineteen and twenty, in the town of Lynden, and is still living on the same farm. Has been a member of the





board of Supervisors for eight years, and Chairman for the last two years. Has been Justice of the Peace, and served as a member of the School Board for a number of years. He married Sarah A. Wilcox, of Canada, on the 18th of January, 1848. They have had two children, one of whom is living; Edward G.

## MAINE PRAIRIE.

### CHAPTER CIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — INDIAN BATTLE—FIRST THINGS —ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BIOGRAPHICAL.

Maine Prairie lies in the southeast portion of the county, and has an area of about 40,000 acres, of which 6,706 are under cultivation. The population in 1880 was 1,105. The western and southern portions of the town are undulating, and in some places quite broken, and mostly covered with timber and brush. The balance of the town is a gently rolling prairie. The soil is a dark, sandy loam with a clay subsoil. This town is dotted with numerous lakes, the principal of which is Pearl Lake, lying in the northern part of the township, and having an area of about 700 acres. On the northeast shore of this lake, there is a beautiful park, laid out by the Lake Park Association, of St. Cloud, and a very desirable spot for picnics, and other summer gatherings.

The first man to settle in what is now Maine Prairie, was Albert Staples, who made a claim in the northeast corner of the town, on section six, in 1856. He was followed, in April of the same year, by Heracles Dam, who made a claim in section seven, not far from Mr. Staples, and built a log house, the first in the town. Mr. Dam now resides in St. Cloud. He was born in Maine, in the year 1806, and resided in Maine Prairie about seven years. Rev. Alvin Messer, Dudley Smith, Martin Greely, Fry M. Kimball, and many others, came during the summer of 1856, nearly all natives of Maine, and settled in the northeast portion of the town.

In the summer of 1855, a party of men from Massachusetts in search of western homes, passed through this locality, and being impressed with its beauty, named it Paradise, and at once set out for

their families, but on their return were unable to find the place, and located at Mamannah, Meeker county. One of the number visited Mr. Greely's house, on the bank of Pearl Lake, several years later, and at once recognized their Paradise, which was now lost to the discoverers.

**INDIAN FIGHT.**—Maine Prairie was the scene of some Indian blood spilling in the spring of 1859. A party of twelve Sioux had been over to the Chippewa country, and returning, brought with them a dead body of one of the Chippewa braves whom they had killed. On arriving in this locality, they cut the body in pieces and burned it in the door yard of one of the settlers, and afterwards began pilfering from the whites. This delay gave a band of Chippeways who were in pursuit, an opportunity to get in advance of the Sioux, which they did, and lay in ambush near the path till they came along, when a well directed volley killed nine and wounded two, one escaping unhurt and making his way to the reservation. One of the wounded died on section twenty-six where the battle took place, and the other was taken away by his friends a few days later.

**GENERAL MENTION.**—The first school in the township was taught by Mrs. Alonzo Spaulding at their residence in the summer of 1857. The first district school was also taught in a dwelling house in 1859, but a log school house was built on section ten the same year. This was number twenty-eight. The next district organized was number thirty, and the school house placed on section twenty-three.

Alvin Messer, a Baptist minister, held the first service here in 1856. The following year, the Methodists sent Levi Gleason to preach occasionally, and that denomination has maintained an organization ever since. They erected a church on section thirteen in 1873.

The Baptist denomination also have a church, on section twelve, erected in 1879.

The first Post-office was established in 1858, with Orlin Farwell as Postmaster. D. B. Stanley is the present incumbent.

A Post-office was established at Kimball's Prairie in June, 1867, but discontinued in 1870.

The first birth was a daughter of Dudley French, named Hattie, in February, 1857.

The parties to the first marriage were Joseph Mitchell and Sarah Greeley, in 1858.

The first to cross the dark river was George Snyder, in 1857.



David B. Stanley opened the first store in 1867.

J. Farwell built a cheese factory on section thirteen in 1876, but after operating it three years, sold to N. P. Clarke & Co., who run it one year. It now stands idle.

During the Sioux outbreak of 1862, a fort, or stockade, was built on section thirteen, in which the settlers gathered for safety, some remaining eight or ten weeks.

Moses Ireland surveyed and platted a town on section seven, in 1856, and called it Marysville.

Another, named Yarmouth, was also laid out by Mr. Cutter, on sections three and ten, in 1858, but neither rose above the common dignity of paper towns.

Maine Prairie was organized in 1858, and the first election held at the house of John Farwell on the 27th of May. This locality was formerly known as Marysville, but one of the first resolutions passed at this election was the adoption of the present name. A large area was then included within its boundaries, but it has been gradually reduced to the present limits.

The first officers were: Supervisors, G. W. Cutter, Chairman, Daniel Spaulding, and Thomas Partridge; Clerk, Martin Greely; Assessor, H. Staples; Assistant Assessors, J. K. Noyes and T. N. Berlin; Constables, A. B. Greeley and W. H. Day; Justices of the Peace, Orlin Farwell and William Gaylord; Collector, H. P. Bennett, and Overseer of the Poor, O. S. Senter.

The products of Maine Prairie, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 69,681 bushels; oats, 52,266 bushels; corn, 12,531 bushels; barley, 290 bushels; rye, 278 bushels; buckwheat, 2 bushels; potatoes, 7,529 bushels; beans, 98 bushels; sugar cane, 4,338 gallons; cultivated hay, 246 tons; wild hay, 946 tons; apples, 484 bushels; grapes, 100 pounds; tobacco, 214 pounds; wool, 1,938 pounds; butter, 27,920 pounds; cheese, 10,919 pounds, and honey, 742 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

SOLOMON F. BROWN, a native of Douglas county, Massachusetts, was born in the year 1817. He was brought up by his father as a mechanic, and lived in the State until 1852, when he went to California, remaining three years. While there, he studied medicine, attending lectures and acting as Spanish interpreter. In 1855, he returned to his native place, and in 1857, moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and the following year, to Maine Prairie, pre-empting a farm on section nine, where he lived

until 1861. Then enlisted in the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry as a private, but was promoted from time to time, and when discharged, was First Lieutenant, and in command of his company. He was discharged on account of wounds received at Vicksburg; was in seven battles. After he was discharged, practiced medicine one year in Memphis, Tennessee, then returned to Maine Prairie in 1865. He was the first practicing physician in the town, and is now located on section eighteen where he carries on a farm. He married Miss Mary K. Pierce, on the 16th of March, 1840. They have one son; Solomon F.

MARTIN GREELY was born in Waldo county, Maine, in the year 1814. Grew up on a farm, enjoying the advantages of common schools. In early life he engaged in mercantile business in his native State. In the fall of 1856, came to Marquette, on the Fox river, Wisconsin, and remained until the summer of 1855, when he came to Minnesota, locating on section ten, Maine Prairie township. He was the first settler in this part of Maine Prairie. Mrs. Greely was in the town six months before any other white woman. Among the incidents of pioneer life, she tells of an occasion, in the absence of Mr. Greely, when a dusky face attempted to enter her house contrary to her desire, when by the skillful use of a pitchfork she compelled him to obey her mandate, and depart. Mr. Greely was the first Town Clerk of Maine Prairie. Has since been Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, County Commissioner, and was one term in the State Legislature. In 1846, he married Miss Cordelia Ford, of Portland, Maine. Seven children are the fruits of this union, three of whom are living; Martin F., Mary F., wife of W. F. Street, of St. Cloud, and Edward W.

FRY M. KIMBALL, a native of Essex county, Massachusetts, was born on the 15th of September, 1824. He worked in a paper mill in Essex county till 1856, when he moved west and located in Maine Prairie on section twenty-four. After some time he made a change, and now resides on a farm in section thirteen. He was one of the first settlers and took an active part in town interests. He married Ellen Adley, of Oxford county, Maine, on the 3d of August, 1848. They have two children; Ellen M. and Alice A.

MICHAEL L. PATTEN was born in Cherryfield, Washington county, Maine, on the 28th of March, 1805. In early life, he learned the wool carding business, which he followed until 1836. From





that time till 1858, he was farming and lumbering, with the exception of seven years, which he spent in California, engaged in the mines and lumbering. In 1858, came to Fair Haven and remained two years, then in 1860, removed to Maine Prairie, locating on section two. Mrs. Patton was the only white woman in that neighborhood for a number of years. From the establishing of the Post-office in 1867, till its discontinuance in 1870, Mr. Patton was Postmaster. He was Treasurer of school district number eighty from its organization till 1877. He married Miss Amelia Bonney, on the 19th of December, 1839. They have had six children, but one of whom is living; Peres P., residing at home.

DAVID B. STANLEY is a native of the state of Maine, and was born on the 23d of February, 1845. In 1858, the family came to Maine Prairie, where David attended common schools. After becoming a man, attended school one year at St. Cloud, thence to the business college of Bryant & Stratton, of St. Paul, where he graduated in 1866. After completing his studies, was clerk in a fur store in St. Paul for one year, then came to Maine Prairie, in 1867, and engaged in a general merchandise trade which he continues till this time. He has been Postmaster for the last thirteen years, and has served several terms as a member of the school board. He is the present Town Clerk and Notary Public, and was a member of the State Legislature in 1878. He married Miss Emma G. Allen, daughter of Barney Allen, one of the early settlers. Their children are, Gracie A., Ida M., Milton P., Katie A., and Henry M. Mary E. died in infancy.

## MELROSE.

### CHAPTER CIV.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—MELROSE VILLAGE  
—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—MANUFACTURING—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Melrose is situated in the northeast part of the county, and has an area of 26,880 acres, of which 990 are under cultivation.

The population, according to the last census, was 611.

The Sauk river enters the town at the southwest corner, and flows in an easterly direction,

leaving the town near the southeast corner. This part is mostly a level prairie, having a light sandy soil. The Adley Branch runs in a southeasterly direction through the eastern part of the town, and forms a junction with the Sauk river on section thirty-six. Aside from the strip of prairie above mentioned, the surface is covered with timber and brush of the varieties peculiar to the locality.

The first four settlers in Melrose were, Moses W. Adley and his brother Warren M., and the brothers Robert and E. C. Wheeler, all natives of Maine. Moses W. Adley arrived at this place on the 10th of January, 1856, but did not settle until the following year, when he took a claim on section thirty-four which included the greater portion of the present village of Melrose. Warren M. Adley made a claim a few months later on section thirty-three. E. C. Wheeler settled near the others the same year, and Robert Wheeler took a claim on section thirty-four in 1859. He still resides there, the only one of the four pioneers now living in the town. Moses W. Adley resides in Getty township.

Melrose township was organized in 1866, and the first election held on the 22d of January. The first records are very incomplete, and a full list of the first officers cannot be obtained. The Supervisors were: W. Chambers, Chairman, Chas. W. Taylor, and Charles G. Lamb; and Clerk, Augustus Lindberg.

The agricultural report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 9,645 bushels; oats, 4,746 eorn, 1,920 bushels; rye, 294 bushels; potatoes, 1,251 bnshels; beans, 9 bushels; sugar-cane, 50 gallons; cultivated hay, 63 tons; wild hay, 795 tons; apples, 24 bushels; tobacco, 35 pounds; wool, 625 pounds; butter, 16,400 pounds; cheese, 50 pounds; and honey, 150 pounds.

#### MELROSE VILLAGE.

This village was surveyed and platted by Edwin and W. H. Clark in 1872. Two additions have since been made, Ayer & Clark's addition in 1873, and Clark's addition in 1874. This was the terminus of the branch of the St. Paul and Pacific, now the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad, from 1871 to 1878, when the branch was pushed through to form a junction with the main line at Barnesville.

Edwin and W. H. Clark opened the first store in 1868, in a board shanty which was erected as a



temporary convenience pending the completion of their new store building, which was occupied the same fall. This latter building has been used as a residence for a number of years, having been supplanted by a large mercantile establishment conducted by Edwin Clark.

The first hotel was opened in 1869, by Joseph Moritz, who still conducts a hostelry on the premises.

The first school in the village was taught by Alfred Townsend in 1868, in the old school house recently removed to give place to the large new building in process of construction. This building is 38x58 feet, and two stories high, containing four large and convenient class rooms. It is built of wood, and brick veneered, resting on a granite foundation, and is surmounted by a lofty belfry which gives to the building quite an imposing appearance. This has been a graded school for a number of years, with two departments, having fifty-three scholars enrolled in each department during the last term. The district is number forty-eight, and includes a portion of Grove township.

According to an act approved on the 3d of March, 1881, the village of Melrose was incorporated, and the first election held on Tuesday, the 5th of April following. The first officers were: President, J. H. Edelbrock; Councilmen, Edwin Clark, A. A. Whitney, G. Richter, and J. Moritz; Justice of the Peace and Recorder, Don B. McDonald; Marshal, Abram Lent; and Street Commissioner, W. B. Whitney.

#### RELIGIOUS.

**ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH, O. S. B.**—This congregation was organized in 1879, by Father Paul Rettenmaier, with a membership of thirteen families. A neat frame church was begun soon after, and vigorously pushed forward to completion. It is 30x50 feet and has a seating capacity of one hundred and fifty persons. Father Rettenmaier remained two years and was succeeded by the present priest, Father P. M. Leuthard. The present membership consists of about forty families.

**ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—The first priests who visited this place, held mass in the houses of William Chambers and Samuel Brown, but the date cannot be ascertained. The first priest who made regular visits was Rev. Augustin Burns. The present church was built in 1872, by Father Burns, and dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Abbot Seidenbush, now Bishop of this Diocese, in 1873. Father Burns' successors have been, Revs.

Wolfgang Northmann, Beauregard, Antony Kasper, Paul Rettenmaier, Norbert Hofbauer, and the present incumbent, Clement V. Gamache. When this church was organized there were but four or five families, now there are over forty families encircled within its fold. A parish house for the priest has also just been completed.

**PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.**—Services had occasionally been held with a few members, by a minister from Sauk Centre, but no organization formed until August, 1879, after which some new members were added, under the ministration of Rev. F. C. Hudson, of Sauk Centre. During the summer of 1880, a handsome little church was erected. Weekly services are held by the Rev. E. C. Lindsley, of Sauk Centre, and the membership has been somewhat increased.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.**—The first class was formed by the Rev. Mr. McCumber in 1868, having but five members, and was under the Sauk Centre charge. The present church building was commenced in 1876, under the supervision of Rev. L. Wright. At the conference of 1879, this was made a separate charge, to which the Rev. Mr. Perkins was appointed. He died while located here, and the charge is now supplied by Rev. A. W. Cummings, of Sauk Centre.

#### SOCIETIES.

**MELROSE LODGE, A. F. AND A. M., No. 145.**—This lodge was instituted on the 14th of February, 1881, with fourteen members, who had fitted up an elegant hall for the purpose. S. R. Foot is Worshipful Master and Don B. McDonald, Secretary. Regular meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

**MELROSE LODGE, I. O. of G. T., No. 100.**—This institution was organized on the 15th of May, 1876, with thirty charter members, which has been increased to about sixty. The regular meetings are held every Saturday night.

**NEWSPAPER.**—Don B. McDonald began the publication of the "Melrose Record," the first number appearing on the 22d of June, 1877. The first volume was a seven column folio, but the year following, it was increased to a six column quarto.

On the 7th of August, 1880, the paper was sold to James I. Hendryx, who continued its publication until the 1st of November, when it was consolidated with the "Sauk Centre Herald."

On the 1st of January, 1881, Mr. McDonald & Son again started the "Melrose Record" at Mel-





rose, and still continue the publication. It is now a five column quarto, and in politics is Independent Republican.

## MILLING.

**MELROSE FLOURING MILL.**—In 1867, Edwin and W. H. Clark bought a tract of land including the water power on the Sauk river at this point. They at once began the construction of a flouring mill, which was completed the same fall and is still in operation. The mill is 40x80 feet, and three stories high. When first started it contained but two run of stones, which has been increased to five run for flour and one run for feed. The capacity is now one hundred barrels per day.

In 1868, this firm also built a saw mill on the opposite side of the river, but discontinued it after a few years, and sold the machinery.

Edwin Clark purchased the entire manufacturing and commercial interests of W. H. Clark, in Melrose, in 1878, and has since conducted the business alone.

**ELEVATOR.**—Pillsbury & Hulbert, of Minneapolis, erected an elevator here in 1879. It is operated by steam power and has a warehouse attached. The elevator is 26x36 feet, and the warehouse, 40x50 feet, with a storage capacity of 30,000 bushels. For the year ending on the 1st of July, 1880, 60,000 bushels of grain had been transferred.

**RECAPITULATION.**—Melrose is one of the most flourishing villages in this part of the State. It contains six general stores, three hotels, one newspaper, one drug store, one flouring mill, four churches and one graded school, with the usual complement of carriage and blacksmith shops, harness shops, meat market, furniture shops, millinery, saloons, billiard halls, etc.

There are two school houses in the township outside of the village. The school house on section ten is in district number seventy-three.

The building on section thirty-two is in district forty-one, part of which lies in Melrose, and part in Grove townships.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

**EDWIN CLARK**, for twenty-four years a resident of Minnesota, and one of the proprietors of the town site of Melrose, is a son of the Rev. John Clark, a Congregational clergyman, and was born in Grafton county, New Hampshire, on the 25th of February, 1834. When he was about eight years old, the family removed to Caledonia county, Vermont, where Edwin learned the trade of printer,

and also taught school for several terms. In 1854, the family returned to Grafton county, the subject of our sketch accompanying them, but after a year's stay, he came to Boston, and spent the next two years in a printing and lithographing establishment. In 1857, he came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, and in company with W. A. Croffut, commenced the publication of the "Minnesota Republican"—weekly—and "The Falls Evening News"—daily. This was the first daily newspaper published in what is now the city of Minneapolis. At the end of two years the partnership was dissolved. Uriah Thomas succeeded Mr. Croffut as partner, and the new firm continued the business until 1863, when the office was sold to W. S. King, of Minneapolis. About this time Mr. Clark was appointed to a clerkship in the House of Representatives, at Washington, and filled the position during the session of the thirty-eighth congress. In April, 1865, he was appointed Indian Agent for the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota and Dakota; the commission being signed by President Lincoln, but two days before his assassination. He was then located at the old Chippewa Agency, near Crow Wing, but at the end of two years he was politically decapitated with many others, by President Johnson. While stationed at the latter place, he built the Leech Lake Agency, now known as White Earth. In 1867, he came to Melrose, and in company with his cousin, W. H. Clark, purchased the town site, improved the water-power, built mills, opened stores, etc., and is yet one of the most active business men in this section of country. Since coming to Melrose he has not taken a prominent part in politics, but exerts a weighty influence in the direction of sound local government. Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Ellen F. Rowe, daughter of Morrison and Sally B. Rowe, of Belknap county, New Hampshire, on the 1st of January, 1860, the marriage taking place at St. Anthony. Of six children born to them, but three are living; Everett, Mabelle, and Walter.

**B. F. BURRILL** is a son of Bela Burrill, a man of considerable prominence, whose birth and death took place at China, Maine, where the subject of our sketch was also born in 1836. He received his early education at the public school and Academy in his native town. When sixteen years of age, he went to live with his brother-in-law at Chelsea, Massachusetts, where he remained four years. In the fall of 1857, he came to St.



Anthony, Minnesota, where he resided until August, 1862, and enlisted in the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years; he was engaged in the defense of the frontier against the Indians, but afterwards went south with the regiment. Since his return from the war, he has followed the cooper business. In December, 1878, he came to Melrose and has since had the management of Mr. Clark's cooper shops.

J. E. CAMPBELL, M. D., a native of Brooklyn, New York, was born on the 25th of June, 1852, but moved when quite young, with his parents, to Aurora, Illinois, where his early education was obtained. In 1869, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Brigham, of Aurora, and afterwards attended several courses of lectures at Philadelphia, and Ann Arbor, Michigan. After completing his studies, he practiced for a time at Sycamore, Iowa, but in 1875, removed to Melrose where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession.

N. M. FREEMAN was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in May, 1839. When but three years old, his father died, and he afterwards lived with his grandfather. In 1859, he came west and located at Paynesville, Stearns county, and the spring following, went with thousands of others to Pike's Peak, but returned to Minnesota the same fall. He then engaged in mercantile business at Richmond, but was burned out in 1863, losing his entire stock. Mr. Freeman then visited his native State, and while there, enlisted in the Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and served three years. After his return, he took a course at the Poughkeepsie Commercial College, New York, and in 1868, returned to Minnesota and became a partner in the Freeman and Warner Transportation Company, which did a large business for the Government at that time. In 1872, he dissolved his connection with the company and moved to Melrose, where he lived on a farm for a number of years. He was then engaged as book-keeper in Mr. Clark's store for a time, but in 1878 opened a Drug store in Melrose, which he still prosperously continues.

GEORGE L. GRINNELL, a native of Broome county, New York, was born in February, 1827. His father was a farmer, and George resided on the old homestead until 1850, when he went to California and was engaged in mining for a number of years. In 1860, he returned to Pennsylvania, and the following year, enlisted in the

Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and served during the war; was severely wounded at the battle of The Wilderness. At the close of the war, he settled in Wisconsin, where he resided two and a half years and then came to his present home in Melrose; he has been engaged in farming most of the time during his residence here. Mr. Grinnell was married in Pennsylvania, in 1863, to Miss Eliza Thompson.

D. GREIN was born in Belgium, in 1857. In 1875, he came to America, and settled in St. Cloud the same year. Soon after his arrival, he began to learn the trade of harness-maker, in which business he has continued most of the time since. In the spring of 1878, he opened a harness shop at Sauk Rapids, but not being satisfied with the location, he removed to Melrose in October, 1879, and has since done a thriving business. Mr. Grein was married on the 11th of March, 1880, to Miss B. Folz, of St. Cloud.

M. GAU, son of Joseph Gau, a physician in the old country, was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, in August, 1824. In 1843, he came to America, and resided in Wisconsin until the breaking out of the Mexican war, when he enlisted in the United States army and served nine months. Several years were then spent in traveling through different portions of America, but at length he settled in Toledo, Ohio, where he remained five years, during which time he studied medicine with Drs. Brown and Davis. He came to Minnesota in 1857, residing at Stillwater and Belle Plaine until 1860, when he came to St. Cloud, and after residing there seven years he removed to a farm in Spring Hill township, where he tilled the soil and practiced medicine. In 1873, he came to Melrose, where he has since given his whole attention to the practice of his profession.

REV. C. V. GAMACHE, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Melrose, was born in the city of Quebec, Canada, on the 19th of October, 1852. His first studies were prosecuted in the Seminary of Quebec, until 1868, when he came to the United States and settled with his parents in South Bend, Indiana, where his studies were continued at the University of Notre Dame. He was then engaged in teaching from 1873 to 1877, after which he entered the Grand Seminary of Bourbonnais, Illinois, and took a course of Philosophy and Theology. Coming thence to the Vicariate of Northern Minnesota, he completed his Theologi-





cal studies at St. John's College, in Stearns county, and was ordained Priest by Bishop Seidenbush, in the church of the Immaculate Conception, in St. Cloud, on the 19th of September, 1880, and was appointed to his present charge on the 25th of December of the same year. Father Gamache also has charge of St. Benedict's Church, in Rooney's settlement, consisting of about thirty families.

REV. P. M. LEUTHARD, Pastor of St. Boniface Church, was born in the Canton of Argau, Switzerland, on the 3d of March, 1849. He came to America in 1866, and soon after entered St. John's College, in Stearns county, in preparation for the priesthood, receiving his ordination in September, 1874. He held a professorsip in the college one year, and was afterwards Assistant Pastor at the Assumption Church, St. Paul, for three years. He was then located at Prairie du Chien one year and a half, and in the fall of 1880, was placed in charge of the Sauk Centre and Melrose congregations, with his residence at the latter place.

CHARLES D. LAMB, a native of Wrightstown, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 5th of September, 1837. At the age of eighteen years, he came to Wisconsin and remained in that State until 1860, when he moved to his present farm, which has since been the family residence. On the 11th of October, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, of the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, was taken prisoner at Murfreesboro', and on being exchanged, was ordered north; served through the Sioux campaign, and was wounded at the battle of Wood Lake. Mr. Lamb was Assessor for twelve years, besides filling other important local offices. In 1876, he represented his district in the State Legislature, and discharged his duties creditably to himself and constituency. He was Postmaster for three years at the now discontinued Post-office of "Lenghill." Mr. Lamb has practiced surveying to some extent since residing in this county.

DON B. McDONALD, Editor and Proprietor of the "Melrose Record," dates his birth at Peterborough, province of Ontario, Canada, on the 18th of April, 1835. In 1855, he came to Iowa, where he resided six years, and thence to Acton, Meeker county, Minnesota, and remained upwards of a year. He then visited Iowa and Canada, returning to Minnesota in 1866, and settling on a farm about eight miles southeast of Melrose. In 1869, he removed to Melrose, where he has been actively engaged in business ever since. He was Post-

master from 1870 to 1880, was Justice of the Peace for eight consecutive years, and is now Notary Public. With the exception of a few months, he has published the "Melrose Record" since June, 1877.

VOLNEY C. MEAD was born in New Lisbon, Juneau county, Wisconsin, in April, 1857. He followed the ordinary routine of boy's life in his locality,—attending school and working on his father's farm. In 1877, he took a course at the Davenport Business College, at the conclusion of which, he came to Rock county, Minnesota, and remained till his removal to Melrose, in July, 1879. Since that time he has been in the employ of Pillsbury and Hulbert, having the management of their elevator at this point.

OMER MOREHOUSE dates his birth in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1837. He came west in 1854, traveling through southern Minnesota and northern Illinois, and returning to Tioga county, Pennsylvania, the same year. He was married in the latter county, when but nineteen years of age, to Miss Sarah Lonsbry. He soon after removed to Johnstown, Wisconsin, and thence to La Porte, Indiana, and after several other changes of residence, returned to Pennsylvania, where he enlisted in Company B, of the One hundred and first Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; was wounded at Yorktown, for which cause he was discharged from the service. After returning from the South he resided at different periods, in Cass county, and Muskingum, Michigan, and in Faribault, Brown, and Todd counties, Minnesota. Then traveled through Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa, returning to Todd county, where he resided until his settlement in Melrose township a few years since.

PETER PALLANSCH, a native of Belgium, was born in June, 1849. In 1868, he came to America and settled at Fredena, Wisconsin, where he learned the miller's trade. After a few years, he came to Minnesota and had charge of the flouring mill at Cold Spring City, Stearns county. In 1874, he came to Melrose and has ever since had the management of the Melrose Flouring Mill. Mr. Pallansch was married in 1873, to Miss S. Heintz, of Kandiyohi county, Minnesota.

GERHARD RICHTER was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 1st of May, 1843. When quite young, he went to Oberstegen, where he served a three years apprenticeship to the blacksmith trade, after which he traveled for the same length of time, still working at his trade in dif-



ferent cities of Prussia. In 1865, he came to America, arriving at St. Cloud in December of the same year, but only remained a short time, going to Clearwater, Wright county. In 1866, he removed to Richmond, Stearns county, where he remained six years; at that place and Clearwater he was blacksmith for the "Minnesota Stage Company." On the 17th of January, 1872, he came to Melrose, and has since been engaged in the manufacture of wagons, and general blacksmithing; he is also engaged in the sale of farm machinery. Mr. Richter was married, in July, 1868, to Miss M. Grunn, of St. Cloud.

A. A. WHITNEY was born in Oswego county, New York, in August, 1846. When but fifteen years of age, he enlisted in Company A, of the Eighty-first New York Volunteer Infantry, and served about four years and four months, without a day's sickness or an hour's absence from duty. After his return, he attended the Commercial College at Oswego, New York, and afterwards engaged in mercantile pursuits at the latter city for two years. In 1871, he came to Melrose, taught school the first winter, and has since, with the exception of two year's absence on the plains, had the management of Clark & McClure's lumber business at this point. Mr. Whitney has held a number of important local offices, the duties of which he has discharged with much ability.

W. B. WHITNEY, a native of Oswego county, New York, was born in July, 1838. He was reared on his father's farm until eighteen years of age, attending school a portion of the time; and was afterwards employed on a neighboring farm for three years. He then took a trip through Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin, but soon returned home and enlisted in the First New York Light Artillery, Company G, in which he served three years and twenty days, taking an active part in twenty-two engagements. After the war, he remained in New York State about two years. Coming to Stearns county in 1867, he located about six miles north-east of Melrose, where he remained until 1873, and removed to Melrose, which has since been his residence.

JOHN WETTE, a native of the province of Rhine, Prussia, was born in 1840. His early life was spent on a farm, and later, engaged in the butcher business. He served two years and nine months in the Prussian army, stationed at Berlin. In 1862, he left the army and came to America; was in the employ of the Government at Fort Ridgely

for a time, and afterwards spent a number of years on the western plains. In 1870, he came to St. Cloud and purchased a farm on which he made some improvements, but two years later, removed to Melrose and engaged in the purchase of live stock and produce, which he marketed at Fort Garry and other points in the Northwest. He has also conducted a meat market the greater portion of the time since coming to the village. Mr. Wette's wife was Miss T. Noubonn, of Trear, Prussia; they were married in St. Cloud.

O. D. WEBB dates his birth in Jefferson county, New York, in July, 1821. When eighteen years old, he left home and went to work in a flouring mill where he remained two years. He then went to Plainsfield, Illinois, where he remained during a severe illness, and after his recovery, went to Chicago and was clerk in a store one year. Then took a trip through the Northwest, visited the East and again returned to Plainsfield, where he built and run a flouring mill, and resided at different places in Illinois until 1855. At the latter date, he came to Minnesota, locating at Sauk Rapids, where he built a saw mill to which was afterwards added a flouring mill; from this time until 1878, Mr. Webb built and operated flouring mills at Fair Haven and Paynesville, in Minnesota, and Clifton, Wisconsin. In 1878, he removed his family to his present residence, near Melrose. Mr. Webb was married on the fourth of April, 1847, to Miss Estlier Northrup, of Lewis county, New York.

A. E. WHITEMORE was born in Merrimac county, New Hampshire, in April, 1832. When eleven years old, he removed with his parents to Bureau county, Illinois, where he was engaged on his father's farm until the death of the latter, after which he commenced improving a farm of his own which he had previously bought. In 1864, he started with a team for Minnesota, arriving in Sauk Centre the same season; he remained there all winter, and the following spring, opened a farm on which he has since resided. Mr. Whittemore's wife was Miss Sarah Norton, with whom he was united in marriage, in 1857.

WILLIAM H. WEST, a native of Jersey county, Illinois, was born on the 11th of August, 1854. At the age of two years, he came with his parents to Prescott, Wisconsin, where he remained, with the exception of one year's absence, until twenty-one years of age. In 1875, he took a trip through the Southern States, and after his return,

the following: (a) the importance of the role of the teacher in the classroom; (b) the importance of the role of the student in the classroom; (c) the importance of the role of the parent in the classroom; and (d) the importance of the role of the community in the classroom.

The first of these roles is the role of the teacher. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the learning of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the development of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the growth of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the success of the students.

The second of these roles is the role of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the learning of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the development of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the growth of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the success of the student.

The third of these roles is the role of the parent. The parent is the one who is responsible for the learning of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the development of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the growth of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the success of the child.

The fourth of these roles is the role of the community. The community is the one who is responsible for the learning of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the development of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the growth of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the success of the citizen.

The fifth of these roles is the role of the teacher. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the learning of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the development of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the growth of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the success of the students.

The sixth of these roles is the role of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the learning of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the development of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the growth of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the success of the student.

The seventh of these roles is the role of the parent. The parent is the one who is responsible for the learning of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the development of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the growth of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the success of the child.

The eighth of these roles is the role of the community. The community is the one who is responsible for the learning of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the development of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the growth of the citizen. The community is the one who is responsible for the success of the citizen.

The ninth of these roles is the role of the teacher. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the learning of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the development of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the growth of the students. The teacher is the one who is responsible for the success of the students.

The tenth of these roles is the role of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the learning of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the development of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the growth of the student. The student is the one who is responsible for the success of the student.

The eleventh of these roles is the role of the parent. The parent is the one who is responsible for the learning of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the development of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the growth of the child. The parent is the one who is responsible for the success of the child.



rented a farm for one year, after which he was employed by Dalrymple in opening his immense farm near Fargo. He was then employed on his father's farm for a year, and in the fall of 1877 commenced learning the miller's trade at Hudson Wisconsin. In April, 1879, he came to Melrose, and has since been employed in the Melrose Flouring Mill. Mr. West was married on the 23d of December, 1879, to Miss Emma Webb, a daughter of O. D. and Esther Webb, of Melrose.

## MILLWOOD.

### CHAPTER CV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Millwood lies in the northern part of the county, adjoining Melrose on the east. Its area is about 26,500 acres, of which 872 are under cultivation.

The surface is generally covered with timber, except a few thousand acres of prairie in the eastern part. The soil is a dark loam with a clay subsoil. There are a large number of lakes in this town, principal among which are, Birch Bark Fort Lake, King's, Cedar, Swamp, and Long lakes.

The first settler in Millwood was William Armstrong, a native of Canada, who settled on section ten in 1866; he moved away after five or six years. Thomas Hanigan settled on section fourteen in 1868, and John J. Ahearn, in section twelve the same year. These were followed during the same summer, by Edwin Lovell, Edward Graham, Barney Barthle, and others.

Millwood was organized in 1871, and the first election held at the residence of Henry Klasen, in section twenty-two, on the 1st of May.

The first officers were: Supervisors, Andrew Barthle, Chairman, William Graham, and Henry Wheaton; Clerk, John Ahearn; Assessor, Barney Barthle; Treasurer, John Buttweiler; and Justices of the Peace, George I. Oldham and James Dugan, (the latter did not qualify.)

This town is divided into three school districts. The first school in the town was taught in district number eighty-nine in 1871 or 1872; the school building is situated in section six.

District number ninety-four was organized in 1874. The school house is in section twelve.

District number ninety-five was organized in 1875, and the school building placed on section twenty-nine.

This town, although formerly hindered by many disadvantages, is now enjoying a fair degree of prosperity. The population, according to the last census, was 283.

The agricultural report of 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 11,520 bushels; oats, 3,709 bushels; corn, 1,180 bushels; barley, 157 bushels; rye, 32 bushels; potatoes, 1,540 bushels; beans, 46 bushels; wild hay, 588 tons; apples, 1 bushel; wool, 304 pounds; and butter, 2,490 pounds.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN J. AHEARN was born in Tipperary county, Ireland, in the year 1818. He learned shoemaking when a young man, which he has followed the greater part of his life. He emigrated to the United States in 1845, stopping first in New York, then in Detroit, Michigan, and then to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he lived until 1851. From thence he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, and after two years, to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he followed his trade until 1862, when he enlisted in Company I, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was in the service three years, taking part in several hard fought battles; and was mustered out on the 11th of July, 1865. After returning from the army, came to Scott county, Minnesota, where he remained until removing to his present farm, in the year 1868. He was married in 1879, to Miss Mary J. Oldham, who was born in Kentucky. They have had a family of nine children; six boys and three girls; eight of whom are living.

MARTIN McCULEY, a native of Ireland, was born in the year 1831. He lived with his parents till twenty years of age, when he emigrated to the United States. He remained for a short time in the city of New York, then went to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in various kinds of employment till 1855, when he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota. Soon after coming to the Northwest, he took a claim of eighty acres in Goodhue county. He followed steamboating for some years, and came to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in 1868. His farm is well adapted to the growing of grain and grazing.

DAVID M. MCINTYRE was born in the state of New York, where he lived until eighteen years of age. He came with his parents to Millwood town-



ship, in 1872, his father settling on section thirty-four. After spending a few years in Minnesota, David M. returned to his former home in New York, but at the expiration of one year, returned to Millwood and bought a farm in section twelve. His farm is mostly in an unimproved state, but offers a fine prospect for a good home in the near future.

CORNELIUS E. WALKER was born on the 24th of October, 1858, near Marietta, Washington county, Ohio, where he lived with his parents until thirteen years of age, attending school a portion of the time. Came with the family to Millwood township in 1871, where he lived with his father, working on the farm. In 1873, he returned to his former home in Ohio, and attended school for several years. After completing his course of study, returned to Minnesota, and is at present with his parents on the farm.

HIRAM N. WOODWARD, a native of Ohio, was born on the 4th of August, 1837. His parents moved to different places, and finally to Valparaiso, Porter county, Indiana, where he lived for thirty years on a farm. He was a soldier during the civil war, enlisting in 1863. Started for Pike's Peak during the gold excitement, but was among the fortunate ones that never reached the scene of disappointment. He came to his present home in section eleven, in October, 1879, where he has lived, giving his attention to the improvement of his farm. He was married on the 4th of December, 1862, to Miss Elizabeth J. Skinner, who was born in Vermont. They have had a family of seven children; five are living.

## MUNSON.

### CHAPTER CVI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT —  
ORGANIZATION — VILLAGE OF RICHMOND — AGRICULTURE —  
CULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Munson lies in the southern part of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 5,784 are under cultivation. It embraces township 123 north, range 31 west. The surface is chiefly a rolling prairie, except in the northeast and southwest, which is covered with light timber and brush.

Sauk river enters the town near the northwest corner, and leaves it near the southeast corner, passing through Horseshoe Lake, which is the largest body of water in the town. There are a number of smaller lakes, the largest of which is Huff's Lake, lying about a mile west of Horseshoe, and in the southern portion of the town.

The first permanent settlement was made in 1856. Herman Brunning and Joseph Young were, undoubtedly, the first settlers. They made claims on section twenty-four, but now live in Swift county. William Buck also settled on the same section, about the same time, but is now dead. Henry Rolfus made a claim on section six, and still resides in the town. Andrew Benmel settled on section sixteen, and John Snyder, on section twenty. The following year was marked by quite an increase in the population, and since then the growth of Munson has been steady. The population, according to the last census, was 810.

This territory was included in the town of Richmond, which was organized in 1858. Munson was organized in 1859. The first records have been burned, but the following is a partial list of the first officers: Supervisors, Reuben M. Richardson, Chairman, Andrew Benmel, and William Buck; Clerk, Henry Broker; Justice of the Peace, H. Brunning; Assessor, B. Pirz; and Constable, Samuel Wakefield.

RICHMOND VILLAGE.—In 1855, Reuben Richardson made a claim on section twenty-four, and the following year, surveyed and platted Richmond on this claim. An addition was platted the following year, by Herman Brunning, and the greater portion of the present village stands on this addition.

The first store was opened by Henry Broker in 1856 or '57 and the first blacksmith shop, by Andrew Gochring in 1857. The first church (Catholic) was built of logs in 1856, and the first services were held by Father Bruno. There are now two hotels, two general stores, two blacksmith and carriage shops, one church, one school, one harness shop, and three saloons.

The township of Munson produced, according to the last report: wheat, 66,749 bushels; oats, 47,733 bushels; corn, 13,100 bushels; barley, 165 bushels; rye, 1,626 bushels; buckwheat, 86 bushels; potatoes, 4,405 bushels; wild hay, 2,176 tons; apples, 87 bushels; tobacco, 275 pounds; wool, 3,984 pounds; butter, 11,075 pounds; cheese, 1,600 pounds; and honey, 570 pounds.





## BIOGRAPHICAL.

MATHEW A. BUSSEN was born in Germany in the year 1851. He came to America in 1870, and after remaining in St. Cloud a short time, attended St. John's College, taking a three year's course. He then went to Quincy, Illinois, where he was engaged as clerk in a store one year, going thence to St. Louis, and was employed as a traveling salesman for some time. In 1876, he returned to St. Cloud, and two years later, came to Richmond, where he was employed as book-keeper in a store until 1880, when he embarked in the mercantile business on his own account. Mr. Bussen was united in marriage with Miss Annie Liser in 1877. They have two children, Leonard and Anthony.

JOHN ETHEN was born in Germany, in the year 1846, and came with his parents to the United States in 1852. The family located in Iowa, where John attended school four years. After school days were past, he began to cast about for a propitious opening where he might secure his future livelihood. Mr. Ethen then came to St. Wendel, Stearns county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming for a time, then moved to the township of Getty and farmed till 1873, when he removed to his present location and engaged in the hotel business. He is now the proprietor of the Central House. He married Miss Cecelia Spath in 1867. They have five children; Joseph, Mary, Anton L., Henry B., and Barbarn.

JOSEPH DUBER, a native of Missouri, was born on the 28th of August, 1852. While a child, came with his parents to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he learned the harness-maker's trade which he has since followed. In 1873, he sold out and moved to Richmond, following the occupation of his first choice. He married Miss Maggie Kraemer, of Lake Henry, on the 4th of September, 1876. They have two children, Rosa and Lucas.

JACOB SIMONITSCH, a native of Germany, was born on the 9th of October, 1832. He came to America in 1851, and after remaining one year in Missouri, came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and was engaged as traveling salesman for a wholesale house until 1862. Then came to Richmond, Stearns county, and opened a general store, which he still continues. This house was established in 1861, by John Stockard, who conducted it alone one year, when the subject of this sketch became his partner. After three years of successful operation, Mr. Simonitsch purchased his partner's in-

terest, and has since very much increased his business under his own management. He was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Stockard, and they have three children; Mary, Frank, and Anna.

JOHN SNEIDER, a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born in the year 1825. He emigrated with the family to the United States in 1839, living in Missouri till 1856. He then came to Cold Spring City, in the township of Wakefield, and engaged in farming and blacksmithing till 1871, when he came to Richmond, where he has since conducted the manufacture of wagons. He married Miss Margaret Rupp in 1852. They have five children; Lizzie, Margaret, Theresa, Andrew, and Catharine.

WILLIAM WIEBER, proprietor of the Richmond House, was born in Germany in the year 1835. Came with his parents to the United States in 1842. He remained in Michigan, engaged in farming till 1861, when he went to the copper mines at Lake Superior, where he remained four years. Then he came to Spring Hill and remained two years engaged in farming, coming thence to Richmond where he now resides. He married Miss Mary G. Pfeffer in 1859. Their children are, Louis, Theresa, Mary, John, Joseph, Carl, Anna, Faronica, and George B.

## NORTH FORK.

## CHAPTER CVII.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—ACADEMY—AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the southwestern part of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 3,202 are under cultivation.

The surface is chiefly prairie, although small groves and light timber are occasionally found. The soil varies from a sandy to a clayey loam, the latter being found on the higher ground. The North Fork of Crow river flows in a southeasterly direction through this town, and is joined in its course by several small creeks. Along these streams are excellent hay meadows, small marshy tracts are also found throughout the entire area.

The first settlers were E. Baalson and Hans Peterson, who came in the summer of 1864. A week later, John U. Anderson arrived and was the



first to purchase land in the town. He died at his residence on section thirty-four, in 1869; the others still reside here.

The territory forming the present town of North Fork was formerly a part of Verdale, organized in 1858. North Fork was organized in 1867, and the first officers were: Supervisors, Ole O. Rund, Chairman, Ole Halvorson, and Nils Helckson; Clerk, Embrick Knudson; Assessor, John U. Anderson; and Treasurer, Nels Olson.

The first birth was Nels Nelson, in 1865.

The first marriage took place in 1870, the parties being Gunnf Evenson and Miss Randi Thompson.

The first school was taught in 1868, by Edward Meagher.

The first preaching was by Rev. Thomas Johnson in 1866, at the residence of Nels Olson.

The town is divided into four school districts, with the buildings located on sections eight, fourteen, twenty-six, and thirty.

#### NORWEGIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This congregation was formed in 1867, with about forty members. A year or two later, a log chapel was built on section twenty-two, which was replaced, in 1880, by a commodious frame church, ninety feet in length. The congregation now numbers upwrad of one hundred.

A parish school for imparting religious instruction, and for the study of the Norwegian language, is maintained about four months in the year. Two teachers are employed, and the school is supported by subscription.

GROVE LAKE ACADEMY.—This institution of learning is pleasantly located a few rods east of the line dividing Pope and Stearns counties, and on the banks of Grove lake, a small, but beautiful sheet of water. This Academy was founded five years ago by the present Principal, D. J. Cogan. It is established on a new system, entirely different from the ordinary methods. There are no classes, the pupils reciting alone, and in private rooms, receiving such aid as their capacity and proficiency demand. It is a boys' school, and intended to fit young men to carry on successfully any business in life.

Professor Cogan commenced this school as an experiment, the result of years of careful thought on the subject, and with a very small patronage, and has succeeded beyond his expectation, having recently increased the capacity of the Academy to accommodate the increasing number of pupils.

AGRICULTURAL.—The agricultural report for 1880, shows the following products: wheat, 38,829 bushels; oats, 16,619 bushels; corn, 1,782 bushels; barley, 670 bushels; potatoes, 2,184 bushels; wild hay, 2,090 tons; apples, 2 bushels; wool, 760 pounds; butter, 19,888 pounds; and cheese, 500 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

THOMAS ANDERSON was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, on the 5th of December, 1855. He came with his parents to Minnesota in 1863, who located on a forty acre lot the following year, fearing to buy extensively because of anticipated trouble with the Indians. His father, John U. Anderson, purchased the first land in the town of North Fork, and was one of the first settlers; he died in 1869. The family still remain on the old homestead. One of his sisters is the wife of Kittle Halverson, living in the neighborhood. Thomas has lived here since 1864, with the exception of a year and a half at Wilmar, where he was deputy Postmaster and agent of the Express company. In 1879, he opened a general store on section thirty-three, the only store within a radius of ten miles. He does a successful business, being also engaged in the buying and selling of stock.

PROFESSOR DANIEL J. COGAN was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland, on the 28th of May, 1836. He was educated at Trinity University; after which he entered St. Patrick's College at Cork, Ireland, where he graduated at the age of twenty-four years, and was ordained a priest. He then became a professor in Colman College, county of Cork, Ireland, at which place he remained, filling the chair of an educator till 1860, when he emigrated to the United States. After coming to this country he took charge of St. Paul's Academy at Helena, Arkansas, filling the position till 1867 when he went to Dubuque, Iowa, and labored as a Missionary Priest in that State and Illinois till 1875, when he came to St. John's College in this county, as Professor of English literature and the sciences. During the year's labor, he became so deeply impressed with the many deficiencies in the ordinary school room routine of college study, and seeing how difficult it was for many students in classes to gain the requisite practical knowledge they coveted, that he withdrew from the corps of instructors in the college and founded the present Grove Lake Academy. He is a natural educator, and prefers the life and duties of an educator, to those of a Priest. It is impossible to estimate the





good he has already accomplished by this "new departure," which is destined to become a popular system of education at no distant day. Young men whose pride and timidity hinder them from entering classes, here find the instruction they so much need, free from the mortification and annoyance of class recitation.

KITTLE HALVERSON, a native of Norway, was born on the 15th of December, 1846. He came with his parents to the United States in 1848, locating near Whitewater, Wisconsin. From thence they removed to Lodi, Wisconsin, then to Winnebago where his father died, his mother having died four years prior to that time. In November, 1865, Mr. Halverson came to Minnesota and took a soldier's claim of one hundred and sixty acres in the township of North Fork. This privilege was obtained for two years' service rendered in Battery C, of the Second Wisconsin Heavy Artillery. He participated in the battle of Chattanooga, which was one of the most remarkable battles of the war, owing to the almost impregnable position held by the Confederate army upon a lofty mountain. Mr. Halverson has held office in the town since he attained the age of elective franchise, and is one of the most influential men in the town, in church and town affairs. He married Miss Geoline Anderson, daughter of the late John U. Anderson, on the 28th of November, 1870. They have five children living; Henry J., Nora A., Hannah J., Samuel A., and Clara J.

## OAK.

Oak township lies near the center of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 2,388 are under cultivation.

This town is mostly covered with timber, except in the western part, where there are a few sections of prairie. The soil is a rich dark loam, with a clay sub-soil. A number of marshes are found in the eastern part of the township.

The first man to make a claim within the present limits of Oak township, was Henry Over, who settled on section thirty-one about 1856. He now lives in Anoka county. Henry Hoppe was probably the second settler, in 1859. Almon Sutton came the same year and settled on section thirty, where he still resides.

Hobart and Antony Rieland came to Stearns county in 1856, and to this township in 1859. Antony Le Vogt settled here in 1861, and still resides in the town. The growth in population has been steady, the census of 1880 showing 682 persons.

The little village of New Munich is situated in the western part of the township, and has two general stores, one blacksmith shop, one brewery, a school, and a church.

There is also a little village at Freeport Station, containing two general stores, one hotel, one blacksmith shop, etc.

This town was organized in 1860, and the first election held at the residence of Almon Sutton. The records were not preserved, but the following is a partial list of the first town officers: Supervisors, Almon Sutton, Chairman, and John T. Peterson; Mr. Sutton was also Justice of the Peace and Assessor.

The town is divided into four school districts, with the separate buildings situated on sections eighteen, two, twenty-three, and thirty-three. The first school was kept by Miss Nettie Sutton in 1861.

There is a German Catholic church at New Munich, and a parish school taught by the Sisters of Charity. Father Augustine has charge of the congregation.

The first white child born in the town, was Mary Over, in 1858.

The first marriage was that of Mathias West and Miss Sarah Over.

The first death was Herman Uhlenkott, whose body was the first to be interred in New Munich Cemetery.

The products of Oak in 1880 were: wheat, 25,890 bushels; oats, 12,809 bushels; corn, 3,137 bushels; barley, 20 bushels; potatoes, 2,300 bushels; wild hay, 1,165 tons; wool, 544 pounds; butter, 14,625 pounds; and cheese, 150 pounds.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

ANTONY RIELAND was born in Germany, on the 28th of October, 1848, and lived in his native land, attending school, until fourteen years of age, when the family emigrated to the United States, coming to Stearns county, Minnesota. His father located on section thirty-two, in Oak township, where Antony spent a few pleasant years, and then began life for himself. He engaged in drawing freight to different parts of the country for a few years; then was employed by the Minnesota Stage Company for a time, after which he drove stage for a



while from St. Cloud to Fort Abercrombie. He bought a farm in section twenty-nine, in the town of Oak, in 1872, where he lived four years. In the fall of 1880, he removed to Freeport Station, where he erected a fine, commodious frame building, in which he keeps a general store. In 1862, he enlisted in the Home Guards, and was in the service about six months. His mother died in 1872, and his father in 1881. Mr. Rieland was married in 1871, to Miss Barbara Metzger, who was born in Bavaria, Germany. They have four children.

FRANK BENOLKEN was born in the year 1846, in McHenry county, Illinois, where he lived with his parents until thirteen years of age; then began to work at the carpenter business, which he followed about seven years, and then spent about one year on a farm, before leaving his native State. He came to Oak township in January, 1869, and located on section two, where he has spent most of his time since. He was traveling salesman for the St. Paul Harvester Works for about three years. Mr. Benolken has held various town offices since his residence in the town, and is now Justice of the Peace, which office he has held for six years, and is also Clerk of school district number one hundred and two. He was a soldier in Company A, of the Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry. He was married in October, 1867, to Miss Annie Molitor, who was born in Illinois. Their children are, Peter F., Herman, John, and Lizzie.

WILLIAM F. OLMSTEAD was born on the 6th of June, 1859, in Danbury, Connecticut, an old revolutionary town, which was burned during the revolutionary war. He attended school in his native town until 1873, when the family moved to Lynchburg, Virginia, but after one year, removed to Bridgeport, Connecticut, where his father worked at his trade, that of a hatter. Here William F. attended school, also a commercial and military academy, after which he was engaged in a shipping office. He was also employed in the shipping department of Wheeler & Wilson's Sewing Machine Manufactory. Came, in 1880, to Minnesota, and was employed as a bill clerk at Springfield, on the Winona & St. Peter Railroad. Then he went to Anoka, where he was telegraph operator for some time, and is now employed as Agent at the Freeport Station.

ALMON SUTTON, a native of Steuben county, New York, was born on the 15th of February, 1820, where he lived till 1843, when he went to Wash-

ington county, Ohio. He learned the trade of marble cutter, which he followed until he came to Minnesota in 1859, and located on his present farm. He enlisted on the 19th of August, 1862, in Company G, of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; went first to Fort Abercrombie, then south, until May, 1864, when he was mustered out of service on account of ill-health. He married Miss Martha J. Hook in March, 1844, who was born at Zanesville, Ohio, in 1822. They have five children living.

## PAYNESVILLE.

### CHAPTER CVIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION--EARLY SETTLEMENT--STOCK-ADE--PAYNESVILLE VILLAGE--SCHOOLS--CHURCHES--SOCIETIES--AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS--BIOGRAPHICAL.

Paynesville lies in the southern part of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which about 2,900 are contained in Koronis Lake, a large body of water lying in the southern part of the town, and extending into Meeker county.

The surface is undulating, and in the south and east, covered with timber and brush. The northwestern part is rolling prairie. The soil varies from a light sandy to a dark loam, with a clay sub-soil.

The North Fork of Crow river enters the town in section eighteen, and flows in an easterly and southerly direction, entering Koronis Lake in section thirty-five.

The first settlement was made in 1857. The honor of making the first claim in the town belongs to Edwin E. Payne, who settled on section seventeen. He was followed during the same summer, by George Lincoln, who settled on the same section, W. P. Bennett, who took a claim on section fifteen, Richard Porter, and Dwight Twitchell, the two latter settling on section nine. T. C. McClure also made a claim adjoining the town site, but soon moved to St. Cloud. The Post-office was established the same summer, and Mr. Payne appointed Postmaster. The first child born was Grace Lincoln, daughter of George Lincoln, in the fall of 1857. The first marriage was that of Olson S. Freeman and Victoria Richardson. The first death was Luther Brown, in 1859.





During the Sioux outbreak in 1862, the women and children were removed to Richmond, and a fort erected for the protection of the men who remained. The desire to remain, however, was not very great, and all but nine men accompanied their wives and children.

Everything was quiet for a time, until one night when they awoke surprised to find the Indians actually inside the fort. It is unnecessary to state that they evacuated the fort at once, and retreated to Richmond, where they all arrived in safety, with the exception of John Boylan, who was wounded, though not seriously.

Formerly, what is now included in the towns of Zion, Lake Henry, Crow River, Crow Lake, North Fork, Lake George, half of St. Martin, and Paynesville, was embraced in the town of Verdale, organized in 1858. Paynesville was organized in 1867, and the first election held at the house of John Phipps, on the 23d of September, when the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, L. Elliott, Chairman, R. P. Gilbert, and John Baitenger; Justices of the Peace, J. B. Pease and H. H. Randolph; Town Clerk, J. B. Pease; Treasurer, R. P. Gilbert; Constable, Alfred Harris; Overseers of Highways, A. Chisholm, Alfred Harris, and A. Wartonburgh. Twenty-nine votes were cast.

The population, according to the last census, was 405.

The cultivated acreage of Paynesville is 2,697, and the agricultural report of 1880 shows the following as the products of the township: wheat, 20,907 bushels; oats, 10,349 bushels; corn, 3,375 bushels; rye, 250 bushels; potatoes, 720 bushels; beans, 5 bushels; sugar-cane, 623 gallons; cultivated hay, 9 tons; wild hay, 869 tons; timothy seed, 30 bushels; apples, 44 bushels; wool, 504 pounds; butter, 7,050 pounds; cheese, 6,870 pounds; and honey, 260 pounds.

#### VILLAGE.

The village of Paynesville was surveyed and platted by Edwin E. Payne in 1857, and named in honor of the proprietor. At the land sale of 1880, the site was purchased by Waite and McClure, who still own a considerable property there. This is a thriving little town, situated on section seventeen and on the North Fork of the Crow river. It contains two general stores, two blacksmith shops, two flouring mills, one school, three churches, etc.

The first store was opened by Waite & McClure

in the winter of 1862-63. The two mercantile establishments are now kept by J. C. Haynes and James Tuttle. Edward H. Bates settled here in 1861, and opened the first blacksmith shop soon after, which he continues to operate.

The first mill was commenced in 1867, by Egbert Ostrander, who, before its completion, sold it to a Mr. Webb, and he to Mitchell and Caswell. The water-power was owned by Waite and McClure, who transferred it to the latter on the completion of the mill. It was removed to the south side of the river in 1875, and is now owned by John P. Appelgreen.

Crow River Mill was built by Beckley and Ferry in 1875. These mills have each three run of stones.

The first school was taught by Dr. R. Hoover in 1863. It was kept in a log school-house, which occupied the site of the present school building in the village.

The first religious services were held by the Methodists, in private houses until the erection of the school-house, and then in that building until 1870, when their present church was built. The Congregational Church was organized in 1869, and a house of worship erected the same year.

Zion's Church, Evangelical Association, was organized in 1861, by Rev. Conrad Lahr, with Christian Brill as assistant. The first services were held in the schoolhouse until the erection of their present church in 1874.

Paynesville Lodge, A. F. and A. M., No. 71, was instituted in the fall of 1869, the charter bearing date of December 14th. Among the first officers were: Charles Griswold, W. M.; Noah Lathrop, S. W.; and John Moore, J. W.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM H. BLASDELL, a native of Canada, was born in the year 1816. He grew to manhood on a farm, and in 1833, emigrated to Ohio, where he served as clerk in a store one year, after which, for three years, he was purchasing agent for the Huron Iron works, at Vermillion, Ohio. He then went south for a time, but returned to Ohio, in 1838, settling on a farm near Brownsville. In 1842, he moved to Frankfort, Illinois, where he resided for twenty years, with the exception of four years that he was Sheriff of Will county, and lived in the city of Joliet. During this time he was engaged in farming, lumbering, and hotel business. In 1862, he came to Paynesville and



located on section seventeen, where his family joined him the following year. Since coming to the State, he has farmed and kept hotel. He married Miss Harriet Burdsey in 1838, who died in 1842. They had three children, but one of whom is living—Ellen, now the wife of A. E. White, of Michigan City, Indiana. His present wife was Miss Sarah Abby, to whom he was married in 1849. They have six children living; Irene, Geneva, Theda, Ida, William P., and George A.

JOHN BLAKELY, a native of Ireland, was born in the year 1821. He came with his parents to Canada while he was young. In 1851, he came to Point Douglas, Minnesota, and the following year, to Hastings, where he resided till 1858, when he removed to Roseville, Kandiyohi county, about one half mile west of his present farm, which is on section thirty, in the town of Paynesville, to which he removed in 1862. He was one of the nine who were in the Fort at Paynesville when they were surprised by the Indians in 1862. He married Miss Jane Mooney in 1842. Their living children are, Robert, John M., Mary, Nancy, Ellen, Crawford, Frank, and Moses.

DANIEL CHISHOLM, a native of Nova Scotia, was born in the year 1834. He came to Beaver Dam, Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1847, where he lived twelve years, and removed to Paynesville in 1859, taking a claim on section eight, where he and his family lived till driven away by the Indians in 1862. During those troubles, he moved to St. Cloud and remained about one year, then returned to his farm. In the spring of 1864, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, but after serving six months, was discharged. After returning to Paynesville, took a homestead on section twenty-one, where he still resides. He married Miss Marietta Reed, November 25th, 1855. They have seven living children; William, Hattie, Alexander, George, Archibald, Franklin, and Edith.

JOHN W. DARBY was born in Cambridge, Washington county, New York, on the 18th of August, 1835. At the age of seventeen, he went to Lawrence, Essex county, Massachusetts, where he learned the machinist trade, remaining two years. Then went to Hoosick Falls, New York, and worked five years for Walter A. Wood, agricultural implement manufacturer; thence to Worcester, Massachusetts, and worked in a machine shop for one year. He then enlisted as a private soldier and served two years; was in General J. J.

Bartlett's Division, to which General Lee stacked arms at his surrender. After receiving his discharge, went to Pittsfield, Massachusetts, for a short time, and then to the Hoosac Tunnel Machine Shops, at North Adams, Massachusetts. Then his health began to decline, and he engaged in no business for a time. He visited Chicago in the winter of 1866, and in the spring following came to Paynesville, where he has been engaged in the merchandise trade ever since. He is Postmaster, Notary Public, Real Estate Agent, etc., which positions he has filled with credit to himself, and to the entire satisfaction of his fellow citizens. He married Miss Emma Elliott, of Canton, Pennsylvania, on the 15th of January, 1870. They have one child, Bennett L., born on the 22d of July, 1875.

HENRY TURNER, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 7th of July, 1857. His father being a blacksmith, the subject of this sketch learned the trade during his growing years. When he was sixteen years of age, came west, remaining one year at Grafton, then at Hutchinson, McLeod county, Minnesota, for three years, thence to Mannanah, Meeker county, where he lived till he came to Paynesville in 1881. He has a blacksmith shop in this village, in partnership with a Mr. Blakely, the firm name being Turner & Blakely.

JAMES C. HAINES, a native of Canada, was born in the year 1840. He came to Kankakee, Illinois, in 1861, where he farmed until coming to Paynesville, Minnesota, in 1866. Worked at the carpenter business and farming for ten years, then went into the mercantile business, including agricultural implements, which still occupies his attention. He has filled the offices of Supervisor, Justice of the Peace, School Treasurer, and is now Treasurer of the township. He married Miss Harriet J. Starkey, of Illinois, in 1862. They have two children living, Herbert M. and Clement M.

ROBERT HOOVER was born in the year 1828, in Pennsylvania. He received his education at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania. In 1854, he located at Chilleothe, Illinois, as a Methodist clergyman, for two years. He was then transferred to the Conference of Wisconsin, which body sent him to Anoka, Minnesota, for three years, after which he preached at Little Falls, Cannon Falls, Owatonna, and Paynesville. Then, after 1862, he preached and farmed for several years,





and for the last eight years, has practiced medicine.

EGBERT OSTRANDER, (deceased) a native of the state of New York, was born in the year 1815. He came to Illinois in 1837, locating in Kankakee, and thence to Paynesville, Minnesota, in 1866, where he opened the Ostrander House on the 4th of July, 1873. He married Miss Delila J. Sargent, of Indiana, in 1839. Their children are, Henry M., Marietta, John Q., James E., Enoch M., Royal C., Hannah A., Elizabeth J., and William H. Mr. Ostrander died in September, 1878. Mrs. Ostrander has kept the Ostrander House since the death of her husband.

LYMAN REED, a native of Vermont, was born in the year 1809. He was raised on a farm. At the age of twenty-one years, went to the state of New York, where he followed farming till 1855, then came to the state of Wisconsin, and farmed five years, and in 1860, removed to Paynesville, and located on section seven. Married Miss Harriet Brundridge, of Vermont, on the 7th of December, 1834. They have four children living; Mariett, Frances, Joseph L., and Elvenah.

## RAYMOND.

### CHAPTER CIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—FIRST THINGS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—CYCLONES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Raymond lies in the northwestern part of the county. It embraces township 125 north, range 35 west. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 3,984 are under cultivation. The population, according to the last census, was 389.

The surface is gently undulating, being mostly prairie with a large area of marsh land. There is some light timber along the western border, and also on the east, where Getty's grove extends into the town.

There are a number of small lakes, prominent among which are, Sand Lake, in the southeast part, and Silver Basin, in the north. The soil is a dark clay loam with a clay sub-soil, except in the southwest corner, where it is more sandy.

In 1860, Frank H. Kranz took a claim on section eighteen, and about the same time, a few un-

married men made claims in the vicinity, but lived with Kranz.

In the early autumn of 1862, two of these young men, named William Lamont and John Dolson, not having heard of the Indian outbreak, started west on a hunting and trapping expedition, but never returned. It is supposed they perished at the hands of the murderous Sioux.

At this time there had arrived quite a number of settlers, but all left during the Indian troubles of that year.

The second venture was not made till the spring of 1866, when L. H. Decker, Thomas Bolles, D. P. Marshall, C. S. Boss, and others settled in the town. Several more arrived during the season, among whom were the Lyman brothers, William Smith and sons, and Liberty B. Raymond.

The first child born was Josephine M. Marshall, on the 4th of September, 1860.

The first death was Daniel B. Lyman, son of A. G. Lyman. His remains were interred on the farm of Henry Lyman, but removed to the cemetery on section five about six years ago.

The first school was taught in the summer of 1867, by Miss Eliza Richardson in an unoccupied dwelling house belonging to P. Smith.

The first religious services were held in the fall of 1866, by the Rev. Mr. Cady, a Baptist minister.

There is a Methodist Episcopal Church organization, which was perfected in 1868. Also, a Seventh Day Advent church was organized in 1873, and a small church erected on section thirty the following year.

On the night of the 9th of July, 1869, a cyclone passed over the northern part of the town, carrying death and destruction in its course. The residence of Richard Richardson was destroyed, killing a little son three years old. Another son, twenty-two years of age, occupied a bed with Liberty B. Raymond, Jr., the former was carried about forty rods, and remained unconscious for a number of days, but finally recovered, but the latter was killed. A number of others in the neighborhood were seriously injured. Another passed over nearly the same course, in June 1877, destroying the residences of William Smith and Alonzo Morris. A son of Smith was carried about fifty rods. He was struck on the head by a piece of flying debris, while in mid-air, and fell in a marsh, but strange to say, was not seriously injured.

Raymond was organized in 1867, and named in



honor of Liberty B. Raymond, one of the early settlers, but now deceased. The first officers were: Supervisors, L. B. Raymond, Chairman, C. S. Boss, and William F. Smith; Clerk, V. C. Lyman; Assessor, D. P. Marshall; and Treasurer, L. Worthington.

The following were the products of Raymond in 1880: wheat, 26,014 bushels; oats, 20,120 bushels; corn, 935 bushels; barley, 2,544 bushels; rye, 309 bushels; potatoes, 3,045 bushels; beans, 8 bushels; cultivated hay, 46 tons; wild hay, 1,492 tons; timothy seed, 7 bushels; apples, 5 bushels; wool, 266 pounds; and butter, 19,700 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

EDWARD P. HOUSE, a native of Somerset, England, was born on the 26th of August, 1830. He came to Canada in 1845, and soon after, to New York City. In 1847, he entered the United States Secret Service, in the Post-office Department, and crossed the ocean several times to London and Liverpool. After quitting the service, spent some time with his parents in Canada, then came west and spent a year in looking after timber land on the upper Wisconsin river, after which, he located in McLeod county, Minnesota, for a time, coming to his present farm in section twenty-nine, Raymond township, in 1879. He was married in Wyoming county, New York, on the 7th of February, 1865, to Miss Catharine Hollway. Their children are, Francis J., Charles W., Joseph P., Thomas, and Moses.

OSHEA G. LYMAN, a native of Lorraine, Jefferson county, New York, was born on the 5th of October, 1830. He lived there till twenty-five years of age, engaged in farming, except about two years spent at the carpenter business. In 1855, he moved to Adams county, Wisconsin, and farmed for eight years, then went back to New York and engaged in the merchandise business for about two years. In June, 1865, he moved to Filmore county, Minnesota, and the following spring took a claim on section nine, Raymond township, where he still resides. He was one of the organizers of the town, and was Justice of the Peace for three years. Mr. Lyman was married on the 17th of February, 1853, to Miss Sarah C. Wheeler, of New York, who died on the 12th of June, 1873. The result of this union was seven children, four of whom are living; Theda S., now Mrs. E. Smith; Emma G., now Mrs. M. A. Smith; Ellen D., now Mrs. J. W. Lennington, of Sauk

Centre; and Amelia A., residing at home. Those deceased were, Daniel B., who died in 1867, aged two years and three months; Sarah S., and Bertie O., both dying in 1875, the former aged twelve years, and the latter, three years and six months.

## ROCKVILLE.

### CHAPTER CX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — SCHOOLS — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Rockville lies in the southeastern portion of the county, and embraces township 123 north, range 29 west. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 3,256 are under cultivation.

The surface is undulating, and generally covered with brush and light timber, except where removed for agricultural purposes. Sauk river runs in a northeasterly direction across the northwest portion of the town, to the west of which lies a strip of prairie, interspersed with oak openings. Mill creek enters the township from the south, and joins Sauk river at the little village of Rockville.

In the center of the township, and along Mill creek, the primary, or granitic, formation appears in place, and from this fact, the town derives its name.

There are a large number of lakes in this town the largest of which is Grand Lake, a beautiful sheet of water, lying in the southern portion of the township. The next in size is Pleasant Lake, lying in the northeast corner.

During the spring of 1855, quite a number were attracted to this locality by the beautiful lakes, excellent mill privileges, etc. Among others were, H. C. Waite, D. H. Spicer, William Decker, and Christ Polange, who made claims on section seventeen. Mr. Decker is still a resident of Rockville, and the others also reside in the county.

In the fall of the same year, M. Hansen and Mathias Ahles came from Illinois, the former settled on section sixteen, and the latter, on section twenty-one; both reside on the old homesteads. The population, according to the census of 1880, was 560.

The territory embraced in this town was a part





of Maine Prairie until 1860, when Rockville was organized, and the first election held at the residence of M. Hansen, sen., on the 25th of June.

The first officers elected were: Supervisors, M. Hansen, Sen., Chairman, Nicholas Kirsch, and John Harren; Clerk, D. H. Spicer; Assessor, William Decker; and Justice of the Peace, A. Smith.

VILLAGE.—In 1856, a village site was surveyed and platted by H. C. Waite and D. H. Spicer, near the junction of Mill creek and Sauk river, and named Rockville. Mr. Waite disposed of his interest to Spicer, soon after, who built a saw mill, and subsequently leased the water power to N. N. Smith, who erected a gristmill. This mill was afterwards torn down and the present one erected by Orlando Tenney, the present owner. It has three run of stones, and a daily capacity of fifty barrels.

School was kept in what is now district number ten, in the house of G. Bauer, soon after the first settlement was made, but a log school house was built on section thirty-four in 1860, which was superseded by the present frame building, in 1874.

District number sixteen was organized in 1867, and school held in private dwellings until the erection of the present school house on section three.

District number forty-four. The first school held in this district was in a rented log house on section sixteen, about 1866. In 1868, a small frame building was erected on section seventeen, which was succeeded by the present building, in 1880.

The school building of district number ninety-one is located on section fifteen, and was erected in 1874.

The agricultural report of 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 43,636 bushels; oats, 19,379 bushels; corn, 7,010 bushels; barley, 109 bushels; rye, 40 bushels; potatoes, 4,812 bushels; beans, 2 bushels; sugarcane, 126 gallons; cultivated hay, 75 tons; wild hay, 1,062 tons; apples, 43 bushels; wool, 841 pounds; butter, 15,865 pounds; cheese, 50 pounds; and honey, 360 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CHRIST AHLES was born in Prussia, on the 10th of May, 1828. He enjoyed the school advantages of his native land, working on his father's farm until twenty-one years old, then served two years in the Prussian army. In 1854, came to the United States and located in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he worked on a farm for about two years,

then spent six months in the state of Illinois. In the spring of 1856, moved to Minnesota and took a claim in Rockville township, which he is improving, furnishing himself and family a good home. He married Miss Margaret Bauer. They have five living children.

MATHIAS AHLES, one of the first settlers, was born in Prussia, in September, 1832, enjoying the school privileges of his native land, and being employed on a farm until 1854, when he emigrated to the United States. He lived one year in the state of Illinois, then removed to Stearns county, Minnesota, first locating in St. Joseph, and the following spring removed to his farm in Rockville, which has been his home ever since. Married Miss Elizabeth Fischbach, on the 10th of April, 1864. They have seven children living. His mother, eighty-two years old, makes her home with him.

PETER BORMAN, a native of Prussia, was born on the 15th of May, 1828. He was raised on a farm, enjoying the advantages of a common school. In 1857, he came to the United States, and after working in a number of different localities for about two years, came to Minnesota. After viewing the country, and admiring some of its advantages, he bought a farm in this town, which has been his home ever since. His farm is in a good state of cultivation. He married Miss Mary Weidert on the 15th of October, 1860. They have three children.

G. H. BRINKMAN, a native of Brunswick, Germany, was born on the 15th of January, 1829. After finishing his school days, he learned the trade of cabinet-maker. - In 1849, he came to the United States, locating in Hunter, New York, but soon after removed to Massachusetts. Here he remained for five years, working at his trade. In 1855, he removed to St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he followed cabinet-making for about two years, then removed to his present farm, located in the town of Rockville, and has followed farming ever since. Mr. Brinkman has served as town Treasurer for fifteen years, and filled other town offices. He married Miss Susan L. Taylor, on the 13th of April, 1855; she is a native of Hampden county, Massachusetts. They have five children, two boys and three girls. In 1864, Mr. Brinkman enlisted in Company A, of the First Minnesota Heavy Artillery. After remaining about ten months, returned to St. Cloud, where his family had previously moved, but after about one year,



returned to his farm, where he and his family have a comfortable home.

MICHAEL HANSEN, JR. was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 20th of January, 1844. He was engaged with his father, buying and selling produce, until he came to this country in 1866. He located in Illinois for about two years, engaging in any kind of labor that offered, then came to Rockville and worked on a farm for four years, and was afterwards in the pump business for two years, making Richmond his headquarters. In 1874, he came to his present farm in Rockville township. He was elected Town Clerk in 1875, and has held the office since that time. Married Miss Ephrosenia Kessler, May 5th, 1874. They have four children.

PETER LOMMEL, a native of Luxemburg, Germany, was born on the 13th of November, 1818. He received a common school education, and learned the tailor's trade in the old country. In 1841, he came to the United States and located in Seneca county, Ohio, living on a farm until 1856, when he came to St. Augusta, Minnesota. Here he lived for ten years, then removed to Rockville, where he has since kept a hotel besides carrying on a farm. He has been Postmaster for the past fifteen years, and Supervisor for three years.

MICHAEL HANSEN, SR., one of the first settlers of the town, and an active business man, was born in Prussia, in the province of Rhine, on the 6th of December, 1811. He attended the schools of his native country, and was employed on his father's farm till about thirty-two years of age. In 1852, he came to the United States, locating in Illinois, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for three years. In 1855, he came to Minnesota, and took the claim on which he has since lived, and now, with his family, enjoys the comforts of a good home. Mr. Hansen was Chairman of the first town board in Rockville, filled most of the town offices from time to time, and is now one of the County Commissioners. He married Miss Mary Bormann on the 11th of February, 1840. They have had four children, two of whom are living.

PETER MOLITOR, a native of the province of Rhine, Prussia, was born on the 9th of December, 1835. As soon as he became of age, he came to the United States, remaining in Illinois, working on a farm, till 1864, when he came to Stearns county, Minnesota. The following year, he was drafted into Company G, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and after about five

months, was mustered out of the service. Soon after his return, he bought his present farm in Rockville township. Married Barbara Molitor, on the 3d of January, 1869. They have six children living. His father was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, in 1799; he was a wagon maker by trade, and came to America in 1856, stopping at Lockport, Illinois, where he was employed at his trade until he came to Minnesota in 1862, settling on a farm in section twenty, Rockville township. He married Miss Mary Hammerding, and they celebrated their golden wedding on the 19th of January, 1880. They have had six children, four boys and two girls; all living in Stearns county, Minnesota.

JOHN PAYNE, also one of the old settlers, was born in Hartford county, Maryland, on the 22d of December, 1826. In 1846, the family moved to Daviess county, Kentucky, and the following year, Mr. Payne engaged in the manufacture of doors, sash, blinds, etc., to which he added a foundry and mill business, and continued the same until 1855, when he, on account of declining health, came to Minnesota. He remained in Sauk Rapids the first summer, and the following winter took a claim on Sauk River, in St. Joseph township. This was his home for ten years, when he moved to St. Cloud and engaged in manufacturing doors, sash, blinds, etc., until 1868, when he moved to his present farm in Rockville township. By his energy and good management, Mr. Payne has fitted up one of the best farms in the town. He has been Chairman of the Board of Supervisors since his residence in the town, and has held several other offices. He married Miss Mary E. Staples, a daughter of one of the old settlers of St. Joseph township. They have had seven children, all living.

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## ST. AUGUSTA.

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This township lies in the southeastern portion of the county. The surface is undulating, and in places, quite broken, being mostly covered with brush and light timber. The soil is diversified; the northern part being a rich black loam, the southwest a clayey soil, and in the southeast, very light and sandy.

The southern and eastern portions of the town are watered by Johnson's creek and its tributa-





ries, which empties into the Mississippi river on section seven.

In 1854, John L. Wilson, the proprietor of the St. Cloud town-site, formed an association with John H. Fibbe, Anton Imholte, and J. J. and George Laudenbach, who located at the mouth of Johnson's creek with a view to founding a village there. During the following summer quite a settlement was formed, and in 1856, the first proprietors, Wilson, Fibbe, Imholte, and the Laudenbach brothers, surveyed and platted the town of St. Augusta, in accordance with the original intention. This town company was subsequently incorporated, and for a time, sustained an organization and favorable prospects.

Improvements were soon commenced, and a saw and flouring mill erected, but the country was too sparsely settled to sustain either of those enterprises, and the place was gradually abandoned. An effort was made by Mr. Pinney, of St. Cloud, in 1874, to repair the old mill, but the dam washed out, and it stands idle, the only visible reminder of the thousands of dollars and years of toil, spent in the futile attempt to build a town in an unnatural location.

About the same time, L. P. Johnson surveyed and platted a piece of land on section thirteen, calling it Neenah City. This town shared the same fate as its sister village, St. Augusta. Mr. Johnson and three brothers, named King, had settled there in 1855.

The first settlers in the western part of the town, were Peter Lommel and J. Schoen, who came in 1856, the former settling on section seven, and the latter, on section eight. The township has had a steady growth, and is one of the best developed towns in the county.

The population, according to the last census, numbers 798 persons.

In 1859, this township was organized, and named Berlin, but afterwards changed to Neenah, and in 1863, the present name was adopted. Section eighteen, and the fractional sections, six, seven, eight, and eleven were added on the latter date, they having formerly been attached to Lynden.

The first election was held at the house of L. P. Johnson, in Neenah City, on the 1st of March, 1859, at which the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, L. P. Johnson, Chairman, Henry Vonjohan, and Peter Lommel; Clerk, Henry F.

Kaestner; Justices of the Peace, Jacob Woll and H. Macavay; and Assessor, John Kopp.

The area of St. Augusta is about 24,640 acres, of which 3,908 are under cultivation.

The first school held in the town was in 1861, in a log school house on section eight. School was kept in an old church the following year, and soon afterwards, convenient school buildings began to be erected. There are now three district schools in the township.

It is supposed that the first mass was held by Father Pierz in 1856, in private dwellings. A small log church was erected the same year on section one, and two years later, a frame church was built on the town site of St. Augusta. In 1873, the present large stone church, on section twelve, was commenced. This is called "St. Mary's Church of Augusta."

St. Wendal Church is situated on section nineteen. The first church was built here in 1859. This was a frame building and was superseded by the present stone church in 1872.

The products of St. Augusta in 1880, were: wheat, 49,327 bushels; oats, 23,271 bushels; corn, 19,485 bushels; rye, 85 bushels; potatoes, 6,589 bushels; sugar cane, 100 gallons; wild hay, 1,348 tons; apples 70 bushels; wool, 881 pounds; and butter, 25,500 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOSEPH LOEHRER, a native of Switzerland, was born on the 2d of February, 1825. He worked while young with his father, who was a manufacturer of gunpowder. After attaining manhood, he and a brother engaged in the same business for several years, then worked at the carpenter trade for a time. In 1850, he emigrated to America, locating in St. Clair county, Illinois, and followed building for seven years. In 1857, came to Minnesota, and took a farm in the town of St. Augusta, on which he lived till 1875, when he made a change, and came to his present place of business in section nineteen, where he is carrying on a general store. He has held the office of Treasurer, Supervisor, and Justice of the Peace in the town. He married Miss Frances Zeller in 1856, who died in March, 1874. He chose Miss Frances Volz for his second wife, the marriage taking place in February, 1875.



## ST. CLOUD.

## CHAPTER CXI.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION — ORGANIZATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

St. Cloud township lies on the east side of the county, being bounded on the east by the Mississippi river. It has an area of about 19,000 acres, of which 4,064 are under cultivation. The soil is a rich dark loam, and very productive. The northwest portion of the town is watered by Sauk river, which flows in a northeasterly direction, and crossing the extreme southeast corner of Le Sank empties into the Mississippi.

The history of the early settlement and subsequent development of this township is so closely identified with that of the city of St. Cloud, and so fully presented in the chapter under that head, that a repetition is unwarranted.

The township was organized in 1858, and at that time, embraced a much larger area, but has been gradually reduced to its present limits, by the organization of new towns, formed to keep step with the march of civilization.

In 1865, Leander Gorton and O. A. Pray erected a flouring mill on section four, which was burned in the winter of 1867-68, and the water power afterwards sold to J. E. Hayward and P. B. Thompson, who again erected a mill on the site. Mr. Hayward soon after purchased Mr. Thompson's interest, and carried on the mill until its destruction by fire in the spring of 1881.

The products of 1880 were: wheat, 37,346 bushels; oats, 23,646 bushels; corn, 13,636 bushels; buckwheat, 10 bushels; potatoes, 8,790 bushels; sugar cane, 194 gallons; cultivated hay, 10 tons; wild hay, 1,657 tons; apples, 21 bushels; wool, 984 pounds; butter, 15,499 pounds; and honey, 218 pounds.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

HARMAN BECKER was born at Albany, New York, in the year 1840. While yet a child, his parents removed to Michigan, and in 1853, to St. Cloud, Minnesota. In 1857, Harman took a claim in the town of Le Sank, where he resided until 1879, when he came to his present home in St. Cloud township. Mr. Becker was united in marriage with Miss Helena M. Ayers, of Maine, in 1863; they have had seven children, five of whom are

living, named George A., Fred B., Charles E., Henry H. and Frank.

WESLEY CARTER, a native of Bridgetown, Cumberland county, Maine, was born on the 7th of July, 1839. He came to Minneapolis in 1857, and was engaged in the manufacture of carriages until the spring of 1859, when he entered the employ of the Stage Company on the line from St. Cloud to Fort Abercrombie; was at different posts on the route, having in charge the building and repairing of the stables occupied by the company. After serving for one year in this capacity, he returned to St. Cloud, and engaged in the manufacture of wagons until 1874, when he bought a farm on sections sixteen and seventeen, in the township of St. Cloud. He built a good house soon after purchasing his farm, and recently added a fine barn, forty by eighty feet, with a basement story, furnishing excellent stable room. Mr. Carter was a short time in the Sioux war, and has held the offices of County Commissioner, Alderman, and Town Clerk. Was married to Miss Martha D. Johnson, in 1866. They have two children, Cora E. and Martha J.

HORATIO J. FOWLER was born in Vermont, in the year 1823. He came to St. Cloud in the summer of 1855, and the following summer, took a claim on Maine Prairie, near Mr. Spaulding, who had taken a claim the year before. Mr. Fowler did not live in the township, but was engaged in various kinds of business at Lower St. Cloud. He burned the first lime in the county, in 1857, and was engaged in running a saw mill for some time. He also started the first furniture manufactory in the town, in 1858. He was an active business man till 1873, when he sold out his business, and bought a farm in section twenty-three, where he lives, spending the declining years of his life very pleasantly. He has been County Commissioner and Supervisor at different times. He married Miss Almeda Worthing, on the 8th of May, 1849. They have had five children, three of whom are living; Georgiana, Willard C., and George S. Mrs. Fowler died on the 28th of March, 1878.

MATHIAS GANS was born in Prussia, on the 8th of December, 1829. He came to the United States in 1856, stopping successively in Chicago, Wisconsin, St. Anthony, and Anoka. In 1857, came to St. Cloud, and for four years was engaged in a variety of avocations, and then, for about five years, taught school in the town of Wakefield. In 1870, was selected County Treasurer of Stearns





county, which office he filled with credit to himself and the county till 1878. He bought his present farm, on sections five and eight, in December, 1879. He was married to Miss Maria E. Pung, in June, 1863. They have nine children living; John, Herbert, Joseph, Peter, Michael, M. P. Edward, Leo P., Mary B., and J. P. Nester.

LOUIS GOYETTE, a native of Canada, was born on the 8th of April, 1836. At the age of seventeen years, he came to America, and after remaining a short time in New York engaged in the lumber business, went to Michigan, and thence, after two years, to Minneapolis, being also a lumber dealer in the two latter places. Two years later, he removed to Wright county, and lived on a farm until April, 1861, when he enlisted in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, remaining in the army three years. He received a wound in the lungs, at the battle of Murfreesboro', from which he is still a sufferer. In 1865, he returned to St. Cloud, kept a restaurant for three years, and was afterwards in the cattle trade until 1876. In the spring of 1877, he went to the Black Hills, and was engaged in freighting until his return to St. Cloud in the spring of 1880. He soon after purchased the farm in St. Cloud township where he now lives. Mr. Goyette was married in 1868, to Miss Hattie Brown; they have had three children, but one of whom is living, named Elida M. Mrs. Goyette departed this life on the 4th of December, 1876.

FREDERICK HOLLENHORST was born in Germany in the year 1823. He came to the United States in 1847, locating in Indiana, and afterwards in Kentucky, working at the carpenter trade for nine years. In 1856, he came to St. Cloud, working at his trade until 1869, when he bought a farm on sections fifteen and sixteen, in the township of St. Cloud, where he still resides. He married Miss Banadine Robbers in 1851. They have three children; William, Josephine, and Banadine.

HENRY B. KENYON, a native of the state of New York, was born in the year 1821. His early life was spent in mechanical pursuits, but after 1863, he gave his attention to farming. In 1868 and 1869, he was superintendent of the farm connected with the State Reform School at Lansing, Michigan. After farming at different places for a few years, came to Minnesota, and has had the management of George H. Smith's farm since the spring of 1877. He married Miss Marietta B. Barrows, of New York, in 1842. They have had

four children, but all have died. They have one adopted daughter, Lindie J.

JOHN KEMPER, a native of Germany, was born in the year 1846. He came with the family to the United States in 1855, and after staying one year in Wisconsin, came to Minnesota, where he has lived most of the time since, engaged in various pursuits. In 1876, he went to Texas, but after farming there for three years, returned to St. Cloud. He is proprietor of the Half-way House, on the St. Joseph road. His wife was Miss Mary M. Bedzold, and they have three children; Joseph S., John A., and William N.

JAMES H. LOVELACE, a native of Illinois, was born in the year 1848. He moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota, in 1868, working at farming and teaming since that time. For the last twelve years he has been in the employ of Clark & McClure. He is living on a farm located in section eight, St. Cloud township. He married Miss Cora Perry, of St. Cloud, in the year 1873. They have three children; Emmet F., Lela E., and Ebenezer R.

MICHAEL LAHR was born in Germany, in the year 1825. He came to America in 1852, and after remaining two years in Illinois, came to St. Cloud, and was employed with his brother, Nicholas Lahr, in the blacksmith business. This shop was one of the first buildings in the place. In 1856, he took a claim on section five, where he now has several hundred acres of good farming land. Mr. Lahr was married in 1860, to Miss Mary Smith. They have six children; Peter N., Jacob B., Joseph P., Mary A., Nicholas, and Michael F.

JOHN T. MARVIN, a native of Kentucky, was born in Campbell county, in July, 1835. He came to Minnesota and located in Rockville, Stearns county, in the fall of 1858, following farming until 1863, and then moved to Maine Prairie and farmed on section thirty-two for four years, then to section twenty-six, in the township of St. Cloud, where he owns two hundred acres. While in Rockville, he was Town Clerk for two years, and since coming to his present farm, has been Town Clerk for a number of years. He was married in June, 1856, and is the father of twelve children; Harriet E., Minnie D., William F., George L., Jennie M., Ida V., Cora and Charles, (twins) Henry S., Everett J., Maud E., and Ira E.



## ST. JOSEPH.

## CHAPTER CXII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township lies in the eastern portion of the county, adjoining St. Cloud on the west. The northern portion of the town is mostly prairie, but the southern part is more undulating, with considerable brush land. Sauk river crosses the southeastern part of the town, forming some excellent hay meadows and bottom lands. The South Fork of the Watab river also runs in a northerly direction through the western part. There are a number of lakes, the largest being Kraemer Lake, in the western portion of the town.

St. Joseph was one of the first settled towns in the county. In 1854, two settlements were made, one in the vicinity of the present village of St. Joseph, by some German families, and the other on the east side of Sauk river, in the southeast corner of the town, by Americans.

In the German settlement, the first settler was Peter Loso, who made a claim on sections nine and ten, where he resided until his death which occurred in 1877. The family still reside in St. Joseph. Mr. Loso was followed the same fall by Michael Lenz, Nicholas Rassier, J. H. Linnemann, M. J. Orth, P. Kraemer, B. Fuels, and M. Fiedler, all settling within a mile or so of the present village. N. Rassier settled on section fourteen, and still resides there, being one of the active men of the town. J. H. Linnemann is also a resident of the village.

The pioneer in the American settlement, was J. C. Staples, a native of Maine, who came in October, 1854, and took a claim on sections twenty-six and twenty-seven. Accompanying him were his sons, James S., Ivory S., Edward, and William, the two former taking land in section twenty-seven, where they still reside. Mr. Staples, senior, has passed away. The population of St. Joseph, according to the census of 1880, was 863 persons.

The town was organized in 1858, and embraced the south half of St. Wendel, the east half of Collegeville, and a portion of Avon, making a total area of 81 square miles. It has been gradually reduced to its present limits, by the establishment of the boundaries of the towns above mentioned.

Its area is now 36 square miles, or 23,040 acres, of which 4,078 are under cultivation.

The first election was held at the house of Peter Loso, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, Moses Morrison, Chairman, John Loher, and John Weber; Clerk, John Payne; Assessor, John A. Miller; Collector, Nicholas Rassier; and Justices of the Peace, Andrew Schroeder and Christian Becker.

A short distance west of the village, and located on the South Fork of the Watab river, there is a flouring mill, built in 1856, by William Roelin, which contained but one run of stones, and was wholly devoid of a bolting cloth. It was operated by different parties, but passed into the hands of the present proprietor, Mr. Danzl, in 1866. He has since made valuable improvements, and greatly increased the capacity of the mill, besides raising the quality of the flour to a high standard. Mr. Danzl has also a saw mill which stands on the opposite bank of the stream, and is propelled by the same water-power.

The products in 1880 were: wheat, 47,304 bushels; oats, 25,010 bushels; corn, 9,885 bushels; barley, 20 bushels; rye, 103 bushels; buckwheat, 20 bushels; potatoes, 4,090 bushels; cultivated hay, 25 tons; wild hay, 1,495 tons; apples, 47 bushels; tobacco, 6 pounds; wool, 1,065 pounds; butter, 5,820 pounds; and honey, 1,250 pounds.

## VILLAGE.

The village of St. Joseph is situated on sections nine and ten, and lies on the line of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba railroad, seven miles west of St. Cloud, and is one of the most thrifty towns in the county.

One of the first settlers here, was J. H. Linnemann, who owns and operates a steam flouring mill in the village. It was built in 1862, and contains three run of stones with a capacity of thirty barrels per day.

The building is 50x50 feet, and the machinery is propelled by a thirty horse-power engine.

There is a grain elevator at the depot, owned by Pillsbury & Hulbert, of Minneapolis. It was built in 1879, and is 34x36 feet, with an engine-room and warehouse attached. The capacity is 55,000 bushels. It is in charge of G. F. Wilson, who has handled, during the eight months ending on the 1st of May, 1881, 150,000 bushels of grain.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church is located here, and is under the auspices of the Order of St.





Benedict. The first mass held here was by Father Pierz, in a small log house about eighty rods from the present railroad station, in February, 1855. Then services were held at different times, at the house of J. H. Linneman, but in 1856, a log building was erected, which served the dual capacity of church and schoolhouse, and Father Wineger was appointed regular missionary.

This primitive building served the purposes of a church until the erection of the present substantial stone edifice. This was commenced in 1867, and completed in 1870. Adjoining the church, there is an elegant parsonage, also built of stone.

School district number two has its school in the village, and is the outgrowth of the school begun in 1856, in the little log church. They have a good two-story building, and the school is taught by the Sisters of St. Benedict. These Sisters also keep an extensive boarding-school for young ladies, and on the same grounds, a home for the Sisters has recently been erected.

The village contains a number of stores, two hotels, wagon and blacksmith shops, mills, etc., and does the ordinary business of a thriving country town.

The annual railroad shipments at this place aggregate more than at any other point in the county.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CASPER CAPSER, for twenty-two years a resident of Stearns county, and one of the first settlers in St. Joseph, is a native of Gaars, Bavaria, and was born on the 16th of March, 1828. At the age of thirteen years, he commenced an apprenticeship to the hatter's trade, and served three years. In 1846, he came to America with his parents, who settled in Elk county, Pennsylvania. The following year he apprenticed himself to a blacksmith in Clearfield county, where he served three years, and has continued the business most of the time since. In the spring of 1855, he came west to explore the country, and visited the site of St. Joseph and vicinity. He was so well pleased with the prospect, that he returned to Pennsylvania and disposed of his property, returning to Stearns county in 1859. He at once took a claim, near Richmond, and also opened a blacksmith shop at St. Joseph, which he has operated ever since. Mr. Capser was united in marriage with Miss M. A. Schriver, of Pennsylvania. They have eight children.

T. COLBENTSON was born in Christiansand, Nor-

way, on the 24th of December, 1836. He was educated in telegraphy at an early age, and employed as Government operator at Staranger, Breviy, and several other large towns. In 1871, he came to America, and was employed by the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company, as assistant agent and telegraph operator at Benson, for a time; he was then transferred to Melrose, and for the last six years, has been station agent, express agent, and telegraph operator, at St. Joseph.

H. H. CLEVELAND was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, on the 3d of October, 1828. At the age of fourteen years he went to St. Johnsbury, and attended school there about two years, after which, he attended the Academy at Brownington, Vermont, for a time. Returning to Canada, he was employed at farming and railroading until 1852, when he came to Illinois and drove a stage from Peoria to Bloomington for one year. In 1853, he came to St. Cloud, spent the first winter in the pineries, and the following season, engaged with Patterson, Benson, and Ward, driving stage for them and their successors for ten years. Then was engaged in the Hudson Bay traffic with H. C. Burbank and others until the railroad reached St. Cloud. Mr. Cleveland then settled on a farm near New Munich, and followed the plough for three years; then returned to St. Cloud, and again resumed the freighting business, continuing it until his removal to this town in 1880. His wife's maiden name was Miss Sarah Hutchinson, with whom he was united in marriage on the 4th of July, 1866.

FERDINAND DANZL is a native of Bavaria, born on the 23d of December, 1835. When a young man in his native country, he acquired the miller's trade, which has been his chief occupation through life. He came to America in 1856, and after remaining in Canada a short time, came to St. Joseph, arriving here on the 24th of June, 1857. He obtained employment in the mill which he now owns, working there for seven years. He then went east, and after a stay of eighteen months in New York and Pennsylvania, returned to Germany, but came again to America in 1866, and purchased the flouring and saw-mill near St. Joseph, which he now carries on, besides operating a farm in the vicinity. Mr. Danzl was married on the 14th of August, 1866, to Miss Catharine Ebent; of eight children, the result of this union, but six are living. One of his children, a bright little girl, was caught in the gearing of the



mill on the 16th of September, 1880, receiving injuries from which she died twenty-six hours after.

THOMAS DANZL is a native of Funstraus, Germany, born on the 3d of May, 1829. When eighteen years of age he began to learn the cooper's trade, at which he continued three years; he was then engaged on a farm one year; was employed in a sugar refinery at Estraege, and afterwards in a coffee house the same length of time. He then returned to his former home, but soon after, in 1860, came to America, settling on his farm north of St. Joseph, in May of the same year. In 1873, he moved to St. Joseph and opened a saloon which he still conducts; he has also been Postmaster for three years. Mr. Danzl was married on the 28th of May, 1860, to Miss F. Kiesmiller; they have had six children, five of whom are living.

J. W. KOOP, head miller at Linnemann's Mills, was born at Dorsum, Germany, on the 6th of February, 1855. His home was with his parents until sixteen years of age, after which he was employed on the neighboring farms until 1873, when he came to America, and has been a resident of St. Joseph ever since. Mr. Koop obtained employment with J. H. Linnemann soon after his arrival, and still works for him. He first drove a team, then was engineer and assistant in the flouring mill, and has been head miller for the last four years. He was married on the 11th of July, 1878, to Miss Regina Linnemann, of St. Joseph, who died after one year and three days of wedded life.

JAMES KEOUGH is a native of Wexford county, Ireland, and was born about 1811. He was left an orphan at the age of ten years, and soon after, was bound in apprenticeship to a sea captain, but at the end of two years, located in Canada, and was employed on the St. Lawrence river and the lakes for ten years. Then removed to New York State, and in 1846, to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming and mining for three years. In 1849, he came to Minnesota and settled at Sauk Rapids, but in 1853, removed to the west side of the Mississippi, and built a house on the Sauk river, in the present town of St. Cloud; this was probably the first farm-house built in Stearns county. Mr. Keough resided on this farm until about ten years ago, when he removed to his present home in St. Joseph. He was married in June, 1855, to Catharine Brady. They have had six children, all of whom are living.

P. H. LEX, one of the pioneers of Stearns county, was born near Kolne, on the Rhine, Prussia, on the 15th of September, 1833. He came to America with his parents in the spring of 1842, they settling on a farm in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. Here the subject of our sketch grew to manhood, in the meantime acquiring the art of engineering. In 1857, he came to St. Martin, Stearns county, where he was engaged with his father on a farm for some time. In 1858, he went to Michigan, but after a stay of two years, returned to St. Martin, and was engaged in farming pursuits, until the Indian outbreak, in which he took an active part, narrowly escaping death at the hands of the savages on several occasions. After the Indian war, he again engaged in farming until 1871, when he moved to Melrose, and kept the Railroad House at that place for a number of years, after which he came to St. Joseph, built the Railroad Hotel, and has since been its proprietor.

PETER LOSO, (deceased) the first white settler in St. Joseph, was born in Prussia, on the 25th of February, 1824. On first coming to America, he settled in La Fayette, Indiana, and remained until the summer of 1854, when he came to Stearns county, and made a claim on sections nine and ten, adjoining the present village of St. Joseph, on which he resided a short time. He also pre-empted a portion of the town site, on which he moved within a year, still cultivating his farm. About 1863, he bought a flouring and saw mill, within a few miles of the village, moved his family there and carried on the mills, until 1867, when he disposed of the property, returned to St. Joseph, and built the Washington Hotel, which he conducted in connection with his farm, until his death, which occurred on the 27th of October, 1877. Mr. Loso was married to Miss Margaretha Fiedler, daughter of M. Fiedler, also one of the pioneers of St. Joseph. They have had ten children, seven of whom are living.

G. A. MARSHALL, dates his birth in Germany, on the 19th of July, 1838. The family came to America in 1853, and settled in Oneida county, New York, but in the spring of 1855, came to Minnesota, and settled on the farm where the subject of our sketch now resides. His father died on the 10th of May, 1881, and Mr. Marshall now owns the old homestead. He was elected Town Clerk in 1873, and has held the position nearly ever since. Miss Annie M. Suck became his wife on the 29th of November, 1866. Six daughters gath-





er around the family hearthstone, but their only son is dead.

NICHOLAS RASSIER, for twenty-seven years a resident of Stearns county, and one of the first settlers in St. Joseph, is a native of Losheim, Germany, born on the 19th of January, 1828. His father owned a large farm on which Nicholas was employed during his residence in the old country. In 1852, he came to America, and after a short stay in the Atlantic States, came to Detroit, Michigan, residing in that city and vicinity, nearly two years. He then visited Indiana and Chicago, after which he came to Stearns county (not then organized) on the 9th of November, 1854. He selected the claim on which he now lives, near St. Joseph, the same year, and has grown up with the country, taking an active interest in the progressive affairs of his neighborhood, and holding a number of important local offices, the duties of which he has discharged with marked ability. Miss Susan Flesch, of Wisconsin, became the wife of Mr. Rassier, on the 4th of June, 1857. Of nine children which they have had, but seven are living.

REV. CLEMENS STAUB, a pioneer missionary of Stearns county, is a native of Baar, Canton of Zug, Switzerland, born, on the 10th of August, 1819. After receiving the usual preparatory education, he commenced to study for the ministry in the city of Zug, in 1844, and thence to Luzerne, where he remained one year, after which he entered the Swiss army and was in active service until the close of the war. In November, 1847, he entered the College of the Benedictine Fathers, at Foralberg, Austria, where he remained one year. Came to America in February, 1849, going at once to the Abbey of St. Vincent, Pennsylvania, where he completed his theological studies, and was ordained priest, by Cardinal Bedini, in December, 1852. He was soon appointed German missionary in the Alleghany Mountains, and was also Procurator of the Abbey for six years. In 1857, he was sent as missionary priest, to Minnesota, arriving in St. Joseph, in May, of the same year, and was appointed assistant to Father Bruno. Father Staub held the first service at the places now known as, New Munich, Meire's Grove, St. Martin, Lake George, and Lake Henry, and gave the present names to the towns of New Munich, St. Martin and St. Wendel. He visited those places regularly for three years, in all kinds of weather, traveling most of the time on foot. He then officiated as parish priest in St. Joseph and

St. Cloud, one year and a half in each place. In June, 1863, he took charge of the Assumption Church, at St. Paul, which he retained for thirteen years and four months, during which, he built the large church, school, and parsonage. He was also Vicar-general for twelve years, of the Diocese of St. Paul, but was called from thence by Abbot Edelbrock, of St. John's College, to fill the position of Prior of the Monastery at that institution. After remaining one year and a half, he was appointed to the charge of St. Joseph's Church, at St. Joseph, which position he now fills.

JACOB C. STAPLES, deceased, was born in Linnington, York county, Maine, on the 6th of March, 1801. When a young man he learned the trade of clothier, but abandoned it for the carpenter's trade, which he followed in connection with farming in his native county until 1839. Then removed to Waldo county, and was engaged in farming and also worked as ship carpenter until coming to Minnesota in 1854. On his arrival here, he selected a claim on sections twenty-six and twenty-seven, which was his home until his death, which occurred on the 29th of November, 1879. He was married on the 30th of March, 1828, to Miss Elizabeth Small. They have ten children, nine sons and one daughter, all reside in Minnesota.

JACOB STAPLES, a son of the subject of the above brief sketch, was born in Waldo county, Maine, on the 6th of December, 1841. Came to Minnesota with the family, and resided at home until 1864, when he enlisted in the Second Minnesota Heavy Artillery, serving one year. Returning from the army, he settled on a farm in Paynesville, but in the spring of 1881, returned to the old homestead, which he now owns.

## ST. MARTIN.

### CHAPTER CXIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—VILLAGE—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township lies near the center of the county. It has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 2,983 are under cultivation, and embraces all of township 124 north, range 32 west.

The southern part of the town is watered by the



Sauk river, along the banks of which are some fine meadows, bordered by a beautiful rolling prairie. The northern part is brush and timber, with some swamp and marsh land.

In 1857, a settlement was made south of the river, by Henry Ley, J. C. Noll, Peter Hahn, Peter Kuhl, and Peter Frevel. Mr. Ley fell from a wagon and was killed, in 1865. Mr. Kuhl died the same year, and Hahn, Frevel, and Noll still reside here. North of the river, the first permanent settler was William Bosworth, in 1857. He was followed during the same year by Eben and W. A. Pillsbury, and the year following quite a number arrived, mostly Americans, so that this came to be known as the American settlement. Of these, the Bosworth family only remain, the others having either moved away or crossed the dark river.

In 1858, a line of stages between St. Cloud and Fort Abercrombie opened a public thoroughfare along the valley, and passed through this town on the north side of the river. A Post-office, called Kennebec, was established at the residence of Eben Pillsbury, but both stage-route and Post-office were discontinued on the completion of the railroad to Melrose. The population of the town, in 1880, was 516 persons.

The territory now embraced in St. Martin township, was included in the town of Verdale, organized in 1858. In 1859, Marion was organized, and included all the territory now contained in St. Martin, Lake Henry, Spring Hill, and a portion of Lake George. The name was soon after changed to Kennebec, and the territory reduced so as to contain only what is now St. Martin and Spring Hill. The name was again changed, in 1863, to St. Martin, and the town reduced to its present limits on the organization of Spring Hill, in 1871.

The officers elected at the organization of Marion, now St. Martin township, were: Supervisors, William Bosworth, Chairman, Andrew Nett, and J. B. Getchell; Clerk, E. E. Abbott; Assessor, John C. Noll; and Collector, Oscar R. Champlin.

The first school in the town was taught by a Miss Brooks, in the winter of 1861-62, in the house of William Bosworth. This was a private school, and derived its support chiefly from Mr. Bosworth. There are now two schools in the township, one is on section twenty-three, and the other is in the village of St. Martin.

The first house in what is now the village of St.

Martin, was a log shanty, 16x24 feet, built by Henry Ley in the fall of 1857. In 1866, Joseph Zimmerman opened a general store here, and about the same time, the Post-office was established, called Leedston.

The village has two general stores, three hotels, one saloon, three blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, one milliner's store, one shoe shop, one church, and one school.

The products of St. Martin township in 1880 were: wheat, 31,910 bushels; oats, 14,020 bushels; corn, 3,345 bushels; barley, 270 bushels; rye, 220 bushels; potatoes, 2,625 bushels; wild hay, 765 tons; apples, 45 bushels; tobacco, 20 pounds; wool, 910 pounds; butter, 8,870 pounds; and cheese, 100 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM BOSWORTH, the first American settler in what is now the township of St. Martin, is a native of New York, and was born on the 8th of February, 1807. In 1843, he moved to Michigan, where he remained till 1857, then came to Minnesota, arriving at St. Paul on the 4th of May of the same year. He rented a farm on Bottineau Prairie, near Osseo, and after putting the seed into the ground, made his first trip to Sauk Rapids, where he crossed the Mississippi river and followed the Sauk valley up to this place, staking out a claim, which he afterwards bought at government price. In February following, he brought his family to their new home. St. Paul was then the chief market town for this country, requiring about ten days to make the round trip; camping out whenever night overtook the traveler. Mr. Bosworth was the prime mover in the organization of the township, the first meeting being held in his old claim shanty. He was Chairman of the first board of Supervisors, which position he filled for a number of years, and also held a number of minor town offices. Mr. Bosworth married Miss Eliza J. Colvin, of New York, on the 20th of July, 1836. They have had seven children; Hannah M., now Mrs. Champlin, Mary E., now Mrs. Staples, John N., Charles C., Lora A., now Mrs. Macomber, Phoebe M., now Mrs. Payne, and William E. In March, 1879, Mrs. Bosworth, who was in a declining state of health, visited her daughters, Mrs. Champlin and Mrs. Macomber, of Maple Plain, Hennepin county, where her health failed so rapidly that she could not return to her home. After a few weeks of great suffering, she died on the 27th of September, 1879, surrounded by a





large circle of mourning relatives and friends.

CHARLES C. BOSWORTH, the fourth son in this family, came to Minnesota with his father in the summer of 1857, and assisted him in improving his farm in Sauk valley. He now owns a part of the old homestead, having built a fine house on the same, affording his father and the family a comfortable home. He was married on the 4th day of April, 1880, to Miss Fannie A. Little, of this township. Her parents were also among the early settlers in this part of the State. They have one child, Julius F.

JACOB DIEDERICH, a native of Germany, was born on the 29th of July, 1843. He is a fair representative of the enterprising German element, to which this town owes much of its prosperity. His father died when he was but an infant, and his mother, about the time he became a man. He learned the wagon and carriage manufacturing business in his native country, and has given his attention to this business during life. He emigrated to the United States in 1878, landing in New York on the 13th of July, and came immediately to Lake Henry, Minnesota, but soon went to Northwood, Iowa, where he remained till the spring of 1881, when he returned to Minnesota and located in St. Martin, opening a wagon and carriage shop, in which he is doing a good business. He has acquired a good knowledge of the English language, being already able to read and write well. His only relatives in this country are a sister and brother.

PETER KUIL, one of the first settlers in this township, but now deceased, was of German birth, being born in Prussia in September, 1831. He emigrated to America in 1856, coming directly to Minnesota. In the following year he visited the town of St. Martin and secured a fine tract of land on section twenty-six, lying mostly on the right bank of Sauk river. Here he made a good home for himself and family, from whom he was separated by death in November, 1865. He was one of the organizers of the town, and a worthy representative of the German element, and had held the principal town offices. He was married to Miss Anna Kirst, of Prussia, just before sailing for America in 1856. They have had seven children, of whom four are living; Susan, Peter, Mathias, and Daniel. Susan married Mathias Butala, of Austria, in 1877. Peter was born at the old homestead in September, 1858, and has always lived on the farm selected by his father, being,

since his father's death, a comfort and solace to his widowed mother. He has received both a German and English education, and for the past three years has successfully conducted the school in this neighborhood.

HENRY LOOSBROEK, (the original name of this family was Van Loosbroek) was born in Holland on the 13th of February, 1838. At the age of twelve years, he began to work at the carpenter business, and after seven years service, emigrated to America and located at Dubuque, Iowa where he followed his trade till the fall of 1868, when he came to Stearns county, Minnesota. After visiting several localities in the county, settled in section thirty-five, St. Martin township, on a forty-acre lot partly included in the village, though not platted. Here he followed his trade, besides engaging in some other lines of business. In May, 1880, he opened a general merchandise store, a hotel, and boarding house, in all of which he is doing a good business. He is the worthy Postmaster of the place. Was married on the 25th of December, 1862, at Fairplay, Wisconsin, to Miss Margaret Heisler. Their children are, Cecelia, Sophia, Henry, Edward, Veronika, and Ellen.

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## ST. WENDEL.

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St. Wendel lies in the northeastern portion of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 1,854 are under cultivation. The surface is undulating, and chiefly covered with timber and swamp land. Some of the latter is being drained, and thus converted into valuable hay meadows. The south fork of Watab river flows in a northeasterly direction across the southeast part, and a number of small creeks meander through the town in various directions. A number of lakes dot the surface, the largest of which is Watab Lake in the southeast, and Big Marsh Lake in the northeast.

Probably the first settler in this town was a Mr. Merkling, who settled on section thirty-four some time prior to 1854, but does not now reside in the town. K. Eich settled on section twenty-four in 1854, and still lives there, the oldest settler in the town. John Haar made a claim on section twenty-six in 1856, and still resides on the old homestead. John F. Salter, the present efficient Town Clerk, and one of the most worthy men in the township,



came to his present farm, on section twenty-two, in 1867.

This territory was a part of Brockway for many years, but organized with the name of Hancock, in the spring of 1868, and changed to St. Wendel the same summer. The first records were kept on slips of paper which cannot now be found. John I. Salter was the first Chairman of Supervisors, and the first Town Clerk.

There is a German Catholic Church situated on section six. It is a neat frame building. Father Anthony visits the congregation twice a month.

There are three school districts, in which school is kept a portion of the year.

The St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad crosses the southwest corner of the town, where there is a station named Collegeville.

The population of St. Wendel, according to the census of 1880, was 510 persons.

According to the agricultural report of 1880, the products of this town were: wheat, 17,654 bushels; oats, 16,168 bushels; corn, 4,285 bushels; barley, 142 bushels; rye, 90 bushels; potatoes, 2,891 bushels; cultivated hay, 20 tons; wild hay, 907 tons; wool, 836 pounds; butter, 8,012 pounds; and honey, 3 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN I. SALTER was born in Devonshire, England, on the 3d of April, 1826, where he lived till seven years of age. Then the family moved to Portage, now Summit county, Ohio, where they still reside. John I. enjoyed common school privileges as a boy, entered the freshman class in Oberlin College, and soon after, the same class in St. John's College, where he attended about two years. He graduated in the medical department at Middlebury College, Cleveland, Ohio. He practiced his profession about one year at Grand Haven, Michigan, then went into the milling business, and subsequently, into the grocery business at St. Paul, Minnesota. Enlisted at the latter place, in the fall of 1862, in Company K, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, but soon after was transferred to a cavalry company. The company was enlisted by Governor Marshall, and commanded by Captain Rockwood. Mr. Salter was promoted to the Lieutenantcy, and during the greater part of his term of service, had command of the company. He had charge of one hundred men for a time at Sauk Centre. After the close of the war, he engaged in the fur

trade about fifteen months, but finally, in 1867, removed to his present farm, where he has since lived. Mr. Salter has been closely identified with public affairs since coming to the town. He has filled the several positions of Supervisor, Clerk, Justice of the Peace, and other local offices. He was united in marriage with Miss Roxy B. Randolph, in August, 1850. She is a native of Madison county, Ohio, and was born on the 31st of July, 1830.

## SAUK CENTRE.

### CHAPTER CXIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY BEGINNINGS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—VILLAGE—MANUFACTURES—BANKS—BAND—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—SCHOOL—NEWSPAPERS—RAILROAD—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Sauk Centre township lies in the northwest part of Stearns county, and has an area of about 26,880 acres, of which 3,410 are under cultivation. The Sauk river enters the town from the north, and flows in a southeasterly direction, leaving about one third of the territory on the east side, which is chiefly timber, although a narrow strip of prairie fringes the river. That portion lying west of the river is an open prairie. The soil near the river is a dark sandy loam, while the higher portions consist of a dark clay loam, with a clay subsoil.

There are a number of beautiful lakes in the township, the most important of which is Sauk Lake. This beautiful sheet of water is about eleven miles in length, with an average breadth of half a mile. The southern extremity of the lake is at the village of Sauk Centre, and the north end reaches a long distance into Todd county. Fish, of the different varieties peculiar to the locality, abound in its waters. Cedar and McCormie lakes are small, but beautiful, lying in the northeastern part of the town.

About 1854, an old artist from some eastern city, accompanied by his daughter, settled on the bank of Lake Kandotta, about four miles from the present site of Sauk Centre. He laid out a town there, and lived amid the wild and beautiful scenery which his poetic soul almost worshiped, until driven out by the blood-thirsty savages, in 1862. He never returned to his beautiful home, and his land has been reclaimed by others. In 1856, the





first settlers arrived and settled where the village of Sauk Centre now stands. This settlement consisted of what was known as the Sauk Centre Town Site Company, consisting of seven persons, the leading spirit in the enterprise being Alexander Moore, who was acting as agent for his mother, Rachel Moore.

The improvements of that year consisted of an excavation in the bluff near the river, which was lined with poles, and appropriated to the general uses of a squatter's shanty. The outlines of a town-site were also staked out, the township not yet having been sub-divided. In June, 1857, the erection of a dam across the Sauk river was commenced by Moore and Jacques, and nearly completed during the summer and fall. A small log house was also built by the company, when operations were discontinued on account of hard times, resulting from the financial crisis of that year. S. M. Bruce having purchased an interest in the enterprise, was left in possession of the claim during the winter of 1857-58, while most of his associates retired to more civilized communities. When the ice broke up, in the spring of 1858, the dam was carried away, but rebuilt in 1860, and a small saw mill put in operation that fall. During the same summer, Jesse Draper built a blacksmith shop on the lot now owned by S. M. Bruce.

The first meeting of the settlers for any purpose, was on the 16th of July, 1857, when they formed what was known as the Sauk Valley Claim Association, with Constitution and By-Laws. The object of the Association was the protection of claims and the preservation of good feeling among the settlers. The members were: S. M. Bruce, President; Moses W. Adley, Vice President; Ed. Gibson, Secretary; William T. Dingley, Edward K. Jacques, Sidney A. Irish, N. G. Bradley, Charles P. Pollard, and Robert Wheeler.

After a few meetings, the Association was disbanded because of the disadvantages arising from being compelled to hold claims for parties not interested in the progress of the town.

Through the strenuous efforts of S. M. Bruce, a Post-office was established here in 1858, and W. Adley appointed Postmaster. The first store was opened by Pendergast & Fish in the spring of 1861, in what is now known as James' addition to Sauk Centre, but then about forty rods beyond the town-site line. Joseph Capser kept the first store within the village limits, in 1864. In 1861, H. A. Boobar built a dwelling house and moved

into it with his family. In 1863, the hotel, known as the Sauk Centre House, was built by W. Adley; a small dwelling house by Stephen Bailey, and the main part of the store building on the corner of Main and Third streets, now owned by J. Capser, was built and occupied as a family residence by Alexander Moore.

During the Indian outbreak in 1862, a stockade was built around the residence of Solomon Pendergast, and several houses were afterwards built within the enclosure. A military post was established here, which had the desired effect, that of preventing the Indians from approaching any nearer the settlements in this direction.

In 1863, the original town-site was laid out and platted by Rachel Moore, and during that year, Alexander Moore, as her agent, built a small grist mill containing two sets of buhrs. Joseph Capser opened his store the following year, and Mark Bedell opened a blacksmith shop, which were the only improvements worthy of note until 1865 and '66, emigration to the frontier having almost entirely ceased since 1861, as a result of the Civil and Indian Wars during those years.

The real growth of the town may be dated from 1865, since when it has steadily increased in population and wealth, and advanced in importance and substantial improvements.

Although the progress of the town since 1865 has been rapid, yet it has not been without its drawbacks. In July, 1867, the dam and mills were swept away and entirely destroyed by a freshet, and in March, 1870, several of the most important business houses were consumed by fire, but by the energy and co-operation of the leading citizens, the structures destroyed in both instances, were speedily replaced by others more valuable and substantial.

The first school meeting was held on the 28th of April, 1861. S. Ramsdell was Moderator, and S. M. Bruce was elected Clerk. The district embraced the whole of the present township. The first teacher was Miss Nellie Harmon, now Mrs. Frank Holmes, of Minneapolis. She was boarded by the lowest bidder, at ninety cents per week.

The first German settler here was Joseph Capser, who came in 1864. He was followed, during that and the two following years, by Anthony Miller, Fred Borgmann, Joseph Ebensteiner, Henry Kalkman, George Gruber, and others. Many of the most energetic business men and farmers of Sauk Centre are found among this nationality.



While the site now occupied by the village was being brought within the pale of civilization, the territory embraced within the present limits of Sauk Centre township was also keeping step with the march of improvement. Claims were staked out, the virgin prairie was turned over by the breaking-plow, claim shanties and log cabins were erected, roads and bridges were built, families grew up, schools were inaugurated, and later, the primitive board and log shanty was superseded by the frame and brick dwelling, until now, Sauk Centre township ranks among the finest in the county. The agricultural report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 32,344 bushels; oats, 18,855 bushels; corn, 3,560 bushels; barley, 525 bushels; rye, 345 bushels; buckwheat, 4 bushels; potatoes, 1,522 bushels; beans, 4 bushels; sugar-cane, 46 gallons; cultivated hay, 201 tons; flax-seed, 330 bushels; wild hay, 1,033 tons; timothy seed, 25 bushels; apples, 34 bushels; butter, 5,755 pounds; cheese, 1,200 pounds; and honey, 15 pounds.

There are six school districts in the township, including two joint districts, in which good schools are kept during the regular terms. The population, according to the last census, was 398 persons.

A brickyard is carried on by Mr. Pangburn, which produces about 500,000 brick annually. An average of seven men are employed, and the brick are of a very superior quality.

#### VILLAGE OF SAUK CENTRE.

A brief sketch of the early beginnings in this beautiful and thriving village, in its relation to the history of the township, has just been given, and the continuation, which here follows, will be confined chiefly to the further progress and development of the village.

Situated at the foot of Sauk Lake, which forms a reservoir covering an area of ten square miles, in addition to a numerous chain of lakes above, fed by the Sauk river, and with twelve feet head of water, Sauk Centre has one of the best and most reliable water-powers northwest of St. Anthony Falls, affording motive power for the development of large manufacturing interests.

The village was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, approved on the 12th of February, 1876, and the first election held on the 28th of March, following, at the office of L. L. West. H. L. Sage and P. M. Meigs were judges of the election, and E. P. Barnum, Clerk. The first officers were: President, B. R. Palmer; Trustees, L. E. Coe, T. Fladcland, and S. Beidleman; Recorder,

E. P. Barnum; Treasurer, E. Oakford; Justices of the Peace, J. D. Carr and L. L. West; and Constables, H. A. Boobar and John H. Dennis.

There is a village library containing five hundred volumes of choice selections from standard literature. Miss Mollie Tobey is Librarian.

The population of the village, according to the census of 1880, was 1,201.

#### MANUFACTURES.

**T. C. McCCLURE'S FLOURING MILL.**—This mill was built by Moore & McClure in 1866, and had a capacity of seventy-five barrels per day. In 1869, Mr. McClure became sole proprietor, since when, substantial improvements, both in mill and machinery, have been made. The main building is 40x50 feet, and four stories high.

It has six sets of buhrs and six run of stones, with a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels per day. The elevator is 35x40 feet, with six bins, and a storage capacity of 25,000 bushels; there is also a storage room 30x40 feet.

**LAKOTA ROLLER FLOURING MILL.**—This was built in the summer of 1872, by a corporation, called the Kellogg Mill Company. In the fall of 1875, this firm went into bankruptcy, and the following spring, Harmon, Holmes & Co., the present owners, bought the property at the assignee's sale. The mill proper is 50x70 feet, and four stories high, including basement. It is constructed on the Hungarian plan, and has a daily capacity of three hundred barrels. The motive power is a Corliss engine of 225 horse-power. The elevator is also owned by the company. It is 40x40 feet, and has twenty-two bins, with a capacity of 40,000 bushels.

**LITTLE SAUK MILL.**—This mill is located on the Sauk river, in Todd county, but is tributary to Sauk Centre, the flour being shipped at this point. It was built in 1873, by Alexander Moore, but passed into the hands of McNiece Brothers & Carpenter, the present proprietors, in March, 1879. The main building is 32x50 feet, and three and a half stories high, including the basement. The power is furnished by water, and the daily capacity is one hundred barrels.

**HOOPLE'S GRAIN ELEVATOR AND SAW MILL.**—In the fall of 1873, Nelson Hoople erected an elevator for the storage of flax seed for the Linsced Oil Company, of Minneapolis, which was used for that purpose until 1875, but has since been utilized for the storage of wheat. It is 30x48 feet, and has twelve bins, with a capacity of eighteen thousand bushels.





The saw mill was erected in 1880, and furnished with a fine engine of 25 horse-power, and an improved flue boiler. This mill has facilities for manufacturing fifty thousand feet of lumber per week.

**MANN & ALLISON'S MACHINE SHOP AND FOUNDRY**—The initiatory steps to this enterprise were taken by Allison & Brown, in March, 1877, when they erected a machine shop for the purpose of repairing mill and agricultural machinery. After operating one and a half years, business was suspended until April, 1880, when the present firm of Mann & Allison established a machine shop and foundry combined; Mr. Mann, who is a practical moulder, having charge of the foundry, and Mr. Allison, a practical machinist, superintending the other department. Mill and farm machinery is the principal work in the machinist department, while the foundry has facilities for general work, although the present specialties are sleigh shoes, knees, etc.

**NOVELTY WOOD WORKS**—The proprietors of these works, C. O. Hoffman, J. W. Bruce, and J. W. Gray, established the business in November, 1880, for the purpose of meeting a want long felt in Sauk Centre, the manufacture of doors, sash, blinds, cornice, and all kinds of cabinet work. This company report the results of their enterprise as very satisfactory, and the prospect for the future, in the same terms.

**FANNING MILL FACTORY**—This factory is situated near the depot, south of the railroad track, and is owned by Henry Keller. It is said that the best fanning mill in the Northwest is manufactured at this establishment.

**BANKS**—There are two private banks in the village, both of which rest upon a solid basis, and are reliable and trustworthy.

The "Citizens Bank of Sauk Centre" was established by Andrew J. Smith, the present proprietor, in May, 1872, he having arrived here but a month before.

The "Bank of Sauk Centre" was established by Solomon Pendergast and Lucas Kells, and opened on the 1st of September, 1880. Mr. Pendergast is President, and Mr. Kells, Cashier.

**SAUK CENTRE BRASS BAND**.—Was organized in 1873, with ten pieces, and F. C. Chase as leader. The present leader is E. P. Barnum, and E. J. Leavitt is musical director and instructor. The number of instruments has been increased to fifteen.

**CEMETERIES**.—In 1874, John H. Dennis laid out

and platted Oakland Cemetery, on the northwest quarter of section fourteen, about one mile from the center of the village.

There is also a small cemetery in the village, owned by Mr. White.

#### RELIGIOUS.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**.—The first organization by this denomination west of St. Cloud, was at this place in November, 1865. The class consisted of ten persons, and was organized by Rev. B. A. Kemp. A conference was held at St. Cloud on the 6th of December following, but no pastor was appointed to this charge. At the conference held the following year, however, J. H. Macomber was appointed. Services were held in an old schoolhouse, and a parsonage erected by Mr. Macomber. He was succeeded by Revs. Charles T. Barkulow, William Copp, F. H. Tubbs, J. Milton Akers, H. S. Hilton, L. W. Wright, who built the present house of worship in 1875 and '76, W. M. Speer, and A. W. Cummings, the present minister. The present membership is about ninety-two.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**.—This congregation was organized in January, 1867, by Rev. A. K. Fox, with thirteen members. Rev. C. S. Harrison had held services here frequently prior to this time, but no steps looking towards organization had been taken. The church building was purchased on the 31st of July, 1872. It had been erected by a Presbyterian congregation which existed here some years before, but had disbanded, the members mingling with other denominations. The ministers who succeeded A. K. Fox, were, Alpheus J. Pike, who was pastor for nine years, and I. L. Corey, the present incumbent. The congregation now consists of about seventy-five members.

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN—EPISCOPAL**.—The first Episcopal services held here, were by Rev. George Stewart, in an old schoolhouse, in 1865, and the church was organized the same year. Their present church was erected in 1868. Rev. T. C. Hudson succeeded Mr. Stewart and Rev. C. S. Linsley is the present minister, who also holds regular service at Melrose.

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, CATHOLIC**.—The first services held here by this denomination, were by Father Mathias, at the house of Joseph Capser, in the fall of 1864.

The clergymen who have had charge of the congregation here since, are, Fathers Buch, in the



winter of 1865, Ansear, who came occasionally in 1866, Antony Kapser, who had a mission here in 1867-68, Burns, Valentine, and Simpkins. Until this time, these priests were paid by private subscription or free contribution. During 1874-75, Father Burghart held services once a month, at \$200 per annum. From 1875 to 1877, Father Sehenck, of Long Prairie, attended this place once a month, at an annual salary of \$200. From the fall of 1877 to the fall of 1880, Father Paul Reteumaier held services twice a month, and received \$300 per year. Father Meinrad, of Melrose, is the present priest. His visits are made twice a month at a salary of \$300 per annum.

In 1870, Joseph Capser, Ferd. Borgman, Joseph Ebensteiner, Henry Kalkman, George Gruber, and Anthony Muller bought a piece of ground on which to build a church. The sum of \$475.00 was paid, Mr. Capser paying \$300.00, and the other gentlemen named, the balance. A church was erected on the spot the next year, and dedicated by Father Valentine on the 30th of June, 1871.

The first confirmation took place in September, 1875, by Bishop Seidenbush, who has since held two confirmation services here, one on the 30th of June, 1878, and the other on the 30th of June, 1881. This congregation has always been connected with an adjoining parish.

**BAPTIST CHURCH.**—Rev. E. B. Haskell organized this church in 1878, with but eight members. The first services were held in the house of Deacon West, then in Barnum's Hall, but subsequently, the Congregational Church was hired, and occupied until the erection of their present church in 1879. Rev. Haskell was succeeded by Rev. C. W. Woodruff, and he, by Rev. W. K. Dennis, the present minister. The membership now numbers fifty-two.

#### SOCIETIES.

**STAR IN THE WEST LODGE**, No. 60, A. F. and A. M.—The first meeting of this Lodge was held under dispensation on the 15th of December, 1866. The officers were: W. H. Smith, W. M.; N. S. Parker, S. W.; and Lneas Kells, J. W. The number of members was nine. The charter is dated on the 23d of October, 1867. The present membership is fifty-six, and the officers are, A. Barto, W. M.; F. E. Searle, S. W.; and A. H. Pettit, J. W.

**SAUK CENTRE LODGE**, No. 34, I. O. O. F.—This Lodge was instituted on the 1st of March, 1872,

with five members. The first officers were, A. M. Stiles, N. G.; S. Beidelman, V. G.; J. M. Gilman, Sec.; and S. A. Irish, Treas.

**CRESCENT ENCAMPMENT**, No. 21—Was instituted on the 21st of March, 1880, with fifteen members. The officers were, C. M. Sprague, C. P.; J. B. Perkins, S. W.; J. L. Robbins, Sec.; and S. Beidelman, Treas.

**SCHOOL.**—An independent district was organized, embracing the territory contained in the village, in 1869, and a charter granted by the Legislature, approved in March, of that year. The first election, of officers, was held on the 27th of March, at which six Directors were chosen.

The first school building, under the new charter, was erected in 1870. Miss Amelia Wright was the first Principal, and Miss S. J. Robbins was teacher in the intermediate department. The building has been much enlarged and improved, and now contains seven class rooms. Seven teachers are employed, and the rooms are classified as follows: one high school, one grammar school, two intermediate, and three primary departments. This is the best public school in the county.

**NEWSPAPERS.**—The first newspaper published in Sauk Centre was the "Sauk Valley News," in the winter of 1866-67, by George McLaughlin, but it seems to have been short-lived. The following summer, J. H. Simonton started the "Sauk Centre Herald," the first number appearing on the 6th of June, 1867. This paper was printed on the first press ever brought to Minnesota, formerly the property of James M. Goodhue, who printed the first newspaper in the Territory, the "Minnesota Pioneer," at St. Paul, on the 28th of April, 1849.

Mr. Simonton was soon joined by his brother, S. Simonton, and the Herald continued to be published by them until August, 1879, when it was sold to Charles F. Hendryx, who is the present able occupant of the editorial chair.

The paper is an eight-column folio, and Republican in politics.

The "Stearns County Tribune" was established in 1880, the first number appearing on the 25th of November. It is owned by Walter C. and J. V. Brower, and edited by Walter C. Brower, under whose able management it bids fair, at no distant day, to rank second to no paper in this part of the State.

**RAILROAD.**—Sauk Centre was without railroad facilities until August, 1878, when the extension of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba rail-





road from Melrose, passed through this place.

The Depot was completed in September, and Mr. Ulmer placed in charge, who was superseded, in November following, by J. A. Norris, the present station agent.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANK ALLISON, of the firm of Maun & Allison, is a native of Delaware county, New York, born on the 5th of September, 1850. In early youth he removed with his parents to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood. While yet a boy, he entered the machine shop of O. E. Merrill, in that city, where he learned the machinist's trade and was employed until 1872. He then went to Chicago, and continued at his trade until 1877, when he came to Sauk Centre and started a machine shop in company with a Mr. Brown, under the firm name of Allison & Brown, but subsequently, merged into the now well known machine shop and foundry of Mann & Allison. Mr. Allison was married in 1873, to Dora Lockwood, of Monroe county, Wisconsin. Their children are, Harry and Myrtle.

WALTER C. BROWER was born in the town of York, Washtenaw county, Michigan, on the 29th of February, 1852, and removed with his parents, A. D. and Mary Brower, to Long Prairie, Minnesota, in May, 1860. Too young to be accepted as a Union soldier, he remained with his parents during the war. In 1870, he was suddenly attacked with Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, and on the third day of his sickness the sense of hearing became a total loss. Recovering from the dread disease, without the power of hearing any sound whatever, he chose the path of a journalist as the one most likely to prove profitable, pleasant, and instructive, under such circumstances, and after graduating at the State Institution for the Deaf, at Faribault, he purchased the "Todd County Argus," and issued his first number December 27th, 1879. The Argus was sold in October, 1880, and on the 25th of November, 1880, as managing editor, he issued No. 1, Vol. I, of the "Stearns County Tribune." Pleasant, affable, and persevering, he has established and built up one of the best papers in the State, under circumstances at once trying and difficult.

HON. J. V. BROWER was born in the state of Michigan, in 1845, where his parents had moved from the city of New York. He removed to Minnesota and settled at Long Prairie, Todd county, in May, 1860. Enlisted in the First Minnesota

Mounted Rangers, for the Indian war, in 1863, and in 1865, just before the war closed, entered the United States Navy. When the county of Todd was organized, on the 1st day of January, 1867, he was appointed County Auditor, and thereafter successively elected to the same position at the fall elections in 1867, 1869 and 1871. During his last term as Auditor he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of 1873, was admitted to the Bar, as an attorney at law, and upon retiring from the office of Auditor by resignation, was made County Attorney and County Superintendent of Schools, both of which positions he resigned to accept the appointment of Receiver of the United States Land Office at St. Cloud in April, 1874, immediately after which he was made Register of the same Land Office, and in December, 1878, was re-appointed, confirmed, and commissioned as Register under Hayes' administration, soon after which he voluntarily retired from the office. He is now President of the Sauk Centre Northern Railway Company, organized for the purpose of building a railroad from Sauk Centre to some point on the Northern Pacific, near Perham, via Long Prairie and the Eagle Valley. A man of the utmost selfwill and energy, he has worked his way from the plow handles to the position of trust and profit he now holds.

E. P. BARNUM, a native of Stonington, Connecticut, was born on the 16th of June, 1831. He grew to manhood in his native town, receiving a common school education, but afterwards spent four years at the Troy Conference Academy, in Rutland county, Vermont. He then followed the fortunes of a sailor for two years, after which he took charge of some business for his father, in New York State. In 1855, he came west, and for one year was proprietor of a hotel at Des Moines, Iowa. He came to Hastings, Minnesota, in 1856, and in company with a Mr. Nash, built a shingle mill in which he was interested until 1864, when he sold out and went as Post sutler to Fort Abercrombie, where he remained till his removal to Sauk Centre in 1867. Here he was proprietor of the Sauk Centre House until 1874, when he engaged in the furniture business, which he continued until March, 1881. In September, 1880, he accepted his present position, that of Book-keeper in the Bank of Sauk Centre. Mr. Barnum was a member of the Board of Education two years, one of which he was Secretary; he has held the office of Town Clerk, four years, County Commis-



sioner, two years, and Chairman of that Board, one year. He is one of the organizers of the Little Falls and Dakota Railroad Company, of which he is Secretary. Mr. Barnum was married in 1852, to Irene E. Barnum, of Michigan; of three children which they have had, but one, Francis E., is living.

GEORGE M. BENNETT was born in Livingston county, New York, on the 25th of December, 1841. He received his education at the common schools and at Nunda Literary Institute. After completing his studies, he engaged as clerk in a hardware store until 1864, when he went to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and was engaged in the same capacity for one year, at the expiration of which time he came to St. Paul, and was in business on his own account till 1866, when he removed to Sauk Centre, and associated himself with Mr. Cole in the sale of Hardware and Agricultural Implements. This was the first establishment of the kind west of St. Cloud. In 1869, he went to St. Paul, and was engaged in the same business until January, 1880, when he returned to Sauk Centre and formed a partnership with Mr. Moore, under the firm name of Moore & Bennett; their business is dealing in lands, abstracts of title, etc. Mr. Bennett was married in 1870, to Trithena A., daughter of Alexander Moore, of Sauk Centre; they have one child, a daughter, named Georgiana M.

S. M. BRUCE, one of the first settlers of Sauk Centre, is a native of Montgomery county, Indiana, born on the 9th of September, 1829. He received his early education and grew to manhood in his native town. In 1850, he went to California, but returned to his home in 1853, and engaged in mercantile business. His health failing, he came to Minnesota and settled at Sauk Centre in May, 1857, and with Mr. Dingley, built the first house there—a log house—just across the river on Main street, which did service as a Hotel for a number of years. The first Post-office was established in Sauk Centre in 1858, mainly through the efforts of Mr. Bruce. In the fall of the same year he went to Indiana, but returned the following year and was engaged in running his Hotel and taking care of his farm until September, 1861, when he enlisted in Company I, of the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served till June, 1865, when he was mustered out at Fort Snelling with the rank of Captain, which he obtained for gallant conduct during the war. He then returned to his farm at Sauk Centre, which he man-

aged until the fall of 1873, when he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and prosperously continues in that line. He was married in December, 1862, to Sarah E. Layman, daughter of Martin Layman, of Minneapolis. They have two children; Minnehaha A. and Florence B.

CHARLES H. BENNETT, a native of Canada West, was born on the 14th of March, 1841. His early years were spent in the vicinity of his birthplace, and after he grew up, was engaged in mercantile business about four years, and afterwards at milling for about two years. In 1869, he came to Sauk Centre and went to work in the flouring mill of Moore & McClure; from a subordinate position he was soon promoted to the general superintendence of these mills, which position he now fills, enjoying the fullest confidence of his employers. In 1875, he was married to Margaret Fowlds, a native of Scotland. They have two children; Thomas E. and Theresa E.

COL. E. BRIDGMAN dates his birth in Hampshire county, Massachusetts, on the 7th of May, 1830. From the age of sixteen to twenty-one, he taught school, and the following years, until he entered the army, was engaged in carriage manufacturing and dealing in real estate. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, of the Thirty-first Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and three months afterwards, was made Captain of the company. After two years service, he was promoted to Colonel of the Second New Orleans Regiment, and was mostly on detached service in charge of military operations, until mustered out at Little Rock, Arkansas, on the 30th of April, 1865. After remaining one year in business at Little Rock, he returned to Massachusetts, and was in the wood and lumber business until 1870, thence went to Louisiana in the same line until 1871, when he came to Sauk Centre and conducted a Hotel one year. He then went back to Louisiana, and was engaged in the lumber business and building until 1874, when he returned to Massachusetts, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1878, when he settled in Sauk Centre and started the first lumber yard in the place. He is still in the lumber business, carrying a very full assortment in his line. In November, 1880, his rapidly increasing trade caused him to take a partner, and the firm is now Bridgman & Whipple. In 1851, Mr. Bridgman was united in marriage with Elizabeth Dutton, of Massachusetts.

JOHN W. BRUCE, one of the proprietors of the





Novelty Wood Works, is a native of Montgomery county, Indiana, born on the 27th of January, 1844. He remained near his birthplace until August, 1861, when he enlisted in the Thirty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He served one year and a half in this regiment and was transferred to the Eighth Indiana Cavalry, from which he was discharged at Madison, Indiana, in May, 1865, for disability caused by wounds received in the service. During the same year he came to Sauk Centre on a visit, but did not permanently settle here till 1867. After being engaged in freighting until 1870, he removed to Ashley, and was farming until 1873, when he went to Westport, Pope county, where he was engaged in a flouring mill and farming until November, 1880, when he commenced his present business. Mr. Bruce was united in marriage in 1868, with Mary Nideffer, of Lawrence county, Indiana. Of three children which they have had, but two are living; William R. and Etta F.

MARK BEDELL, a pioneer blacksmith of Sauk Centre, was born in Addison county, Vermont, on the 22d of February, 1828. At the age of four years he moved with his parents to Ohio in which State he was raised, learning the blacksmith trade at Cleveland. In 1850, he went to Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade for several years, and afterwards resided in Iowa and Illinois. In 1864, he came to Sauk Centre and opened a blacksmith shop; the first wagon and the first plow manufactured in this place, were by him. Mr. Bedell has followed his trade since coming here but owns a valuable farm in the township of Getty, in Stearns county. He was a member of the School Board of Sauk Centre for two years. He was married in 1853, to Alma Armstrong, of Oswego, New York. Of four children, but three are living; Mary C., Charles W., and Helen J.

JOSEPH CAPSER, one of the pioneers of Stearns county, was born in Bavaria, on the 5th of March, 1833. In 1846, he came to America with his father, who located in Pennsylvania, and was engaged as a land agent and surveyor. In 1858, Joseph started for the West, and the same year, located near St. Cloud, where he engaged in farming until 1864, when he removed to Sauk Centre and embarked in the mercantile business, opening the first store within the village limits. As a merchant, Mr. Capser has been unusually successful, taking into consideration the fact, which is worthy of note, that he commenced business four thou-

sand dollars in debt. His present prosperous condition is a fair index of his energy and enterprise. He assisted in the organization of Stearns county, and was one of the first County Commissioners, holding the office continuously for eight years. In 1875-76, he represented his district in the State Senate and was Presidential Elector in the contest of 1876. He also took a very active part in the organization of the Catholic Church of Sauk Centre and has been its most liberal supporter since. Mr. Capser was married in 1864, to Mary A. Ley, daughter of Henry J. Ley, one of the old settlers of this region. They have had six children, all of whom are living; their names are, Henry C., Josephina J., Sufronica C., Albert J., Edward A., and George W.

L. E. COE, owner and proprietor of the Sauk Centre House, dates his birth at Granville, Massachusetts, on the 5th of August, 1826. At a very early age he removed with his parents to Hartford county, Connecticut, where he was reared and learned the trade of machinist and blacksmith. In 1853, he removed to Amherst, Massachusetts, where he worked at his trade until 1860, and from that time until 1865, was in the employ of the Boston and Albany railroad company. He then went to Chili, South America, where he was engaged by the Caldera and Copiopo Railroad Company until 1871, when he became connected with Henry Meigs, the celebrated engineer, and was master-mechanic for the Chimbote and Huayras Railroad Company until 1874, when he returned to Connecticut. In 1875, he came to Sauk Centre and purchased the property he now owns, but was engaged in mercantile business until September, 1879, when he assumed, and still continues the management of his hotel. Mr. Coe was married in 1853, to Harriet E. Thayer, of Massachusetts. Of six children, but one survives, Emma E.

A. CANFIELD, one of the oldest medical practitioners in Minnesota, was born in Morris county, New York, on the 28th of April, 1822. When he was six years old, his parents removed to Monroe county, where our subject received his early education. Having decided upon acquiring the medical profession, he entered the study of Professor McIntyre, of Palmyra, and finished his course with Professor Meyer, of Williamson, New York. He then, in 1849, removed to St. Lawrence county, and commenced practice. In July, 1854, he came to Minnesota, first visiting St. Paul, but settling at Hastings, Dakota county, the same month.



Here, he took a claim and continued the practice of his profession until 1857, when he removed to Hampton in the same county, and two years later, to Farmington, where he practiced until 1867. He then removed to Sauk Centre, where he has since resided. Dr. Canfield was united in marriage with Eliza C. Van Derlinder, in 1841; she died in June, 1850, leaving four children, Mannin F., John H., Phoebe A., and James N., all of whom are still living. His present wife was Rosetta Truax, of St. Lawrence county, New York, the marriage taking place in 1853. The result of this union has been eight children, five of whom are living; Electa L., Dillon E., Florence V., Hattie M., and William O.

ELZA CONNER, one of the old settlers of Sauk Centre, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, on the 22d of February, 1821. He grew to manhood in his native county, receiving a common school education, and afterwards attending Gambia College; After leaving college he studied the profession of veterinary surgeon. In 1844, he removed to Columbus, Indiana, where he was engaged in farming and the practice of his profession until 1859, when he came to Hastings, Minnesota, and was largely interested in the cattle trade for a number of years. In 1864, he enlisted in the first Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served until discharged for disability from the hospital at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in July, 1865. He then came to Sauk Centre, and most of the time since has been engaged in the cattle trade, and as veterinary surgeon. Mr. Conner was married in 1845, to Eleonora Crow, of Virginia; she died in 1861, leaving four children, Alonzo, Celestine, Josephine, and Laura. He was again united in marriage, with Julia Diamond, of Columbus, Georgia, the event taking place in 1866; they have one daughter, named Minnie.

J. H. DENNIS, one of the first settlers of Sauk Centre, was born in Somerset county, Maine, on the 18th of August, 1828. He was raised on a farm until twenty-one years of age, his father being a farmer and local minister. In 1850, he went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he was Assistant Supervisor of the State Lunatic Asylum one year, and also spent two years at the machinist's trade. The next three or four years were spent in Allegany county, New York, in Pennsylvania, and Hudson, Wisconsin, in the lumber business. In 1856, he removed to Hastings, Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming until com-

ing to Sauk Centre in September, 1858. He soon after took a claim in what is now the town of Melrose, where he resided until 1864, since which time, Sauk Centre has been his home. In 1875, Oakland Cemetery, the property of Mr. Dennis, located in the suburbs of the village, was laid out and dedicated. In June, 1859, he was made Constable and has been re-elected to the office each succeeding year; he was also Deputy Sheriff for ten years. Mr. Dennis was married in 1856, to Amanda S. Chapman, of Syracuse, New York. Of eight children which they have had, but three are living; Faustina B., Hiram E., and Leona E.

JESSE DRAPER, also one of the pioneers of Sauk Centre, is a native of Fayette county, Indiana, born on the 18th of November, 1827. When thirteen years of age, he removed to Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he received his early education and learned the blacksmith trade. After working in various places he came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, in 1849, but the following year, removed to Red Wing, Goodhue county, where he resided until 1854 and returned to St. Anthony, but remained only a short time, going to Osakis the same year, where he was engaged at his trade until coming to Sauk Centre in the spring of 1860. As soon as Mr. Draper arrived here he commenced the erection of a small blacksmith shop, where S. M. Bruce's store now stands. In 1861, Mr. J. M. Thomason became his partner and they continued the blacksmith business in another portion of the town until 1863, when Mr. Draper accepted an engagement offered him by the Government, and went south with the army. He returned to Sauk Centre in 1865, and again started a shop, which he sold to E. E. West in 1866 and removed to Otter Tail county, where he now resides engaged at his trade and farming. Mr. Draper was married in 1858, to Elizabeth Kells, of New York State. The result of this union is four children; Permelia C., Henry J., Mary A., and George L. Mrs. Draper was removed by death in March, 1881.

T. FLADELAND, a native of Norway, was born on the 18th of October, 1831. He came to America with his parents in 1843, they settling in Dane county, Wisconsin, where our subject was reared, engaged in farming pursuits. In 1849, he engaged as clerk in a store, which occupation he followed for many years, being employed in Iowa, Wisconsin, Colorado, and various other portions of the country until the spring of 1866, when he came to Sauk Centre, which has since been his





residence. He was first employed as clerk for Moore & McClure, and afterwards for Mr. Moore, until 1871, when he started a general store on his own account and still continues in that line. Mr. Fladeland was married in 1858, to Claudine Brun, of Norway; she died in 1864, leaving two children; John N. and Claudius. He was married again in 1866, to Jane O. Kalstovg, also of Norway. Of two children born to them, but one is living, named Olof G.

JOHN W. GRAY, a native of Lower Canada, was born on the 18th of February, 1855. When a young man, he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, at which he was employed in his native country until the spring of 1879, when he came to Sauk Centre, and for upwards of a year, was engaged in the flouring mill of Harmon, Holmes & Co. Since November, 1880, he has had an interest in the ownership of the Novelty Wood Works. Mr. Gray was married in 1878, to Elizabeth Cummings, of Lower Canada. They have two children; Walter and John L.

C. HARMON, manager of the Lakota Roller Flouring Mills, is a son of Deacon Harmon, one of the old settlers of Minneapolis, and was born in Penobscot county, Maine, on the 4th of August, 1839. In 1850, he removed with his parents to St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he remained until 1859, when he came to Sauk Centre and took a claim which he worked until 1863. He was then employed in the Quartermaster Department, United States army, until 1866, when he returned to his farm, and was also engaged in railroad building for several years. In 1872, he engaged with Harmon, Holmes & Co., in the building of their flouring mills at this point, and since their completion has been manager of the concern. Mr. Harmon was married in 1865, to Frances E. Reed, of New York State. Of five children, the result of this union, only two are living; William W. and Lulu M.

JESSE L. HARMON, son of Jacob Harmon, one of the early settlers in Pope county, Minnesota, dates his birth in Dubois county, Indiana, on the 1st of March, 1852. At an early age, he removed with his parents to Scott county, Missouri, where he was reared on a farm. In 1867, he came with the family, to Pope county, where his parents yet reside. In July, 1877, he went to Fargo, D. T., and worked at the harness trade until April, 1878, when he came to Sauk Centre, and has since been employed as tradesman and foreman, by William Schertlin,

the well known harness dealer of that place.

NELSON HOOPLE, owner of Hoople's grain elevator and saw mill, was born in what is now the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 28th of October, 1846. In 1855, he removed with his parents, to Dakota county, Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming the greater portion of the time until November, 1863, when he enlisted in Company F, of the First Minnesota Cavalry, and served till he was mustered out at Fort Snelling, in December, 1864. He then returned to the old homestead in Dakota county, and followed farming until 1872, when he removed to Sauk Centre. Mr. Hoople is regarded as one of the "go-ahead" citizens of Sauk Centre, and has rapidly placed himself in the front rank of its business men. He was married in 1868, to Cecelia Erwin, of New York State. They have had three children, two of whom, Roy and Lotta, are now living.

C. O. HOFFMAN, one of the proprietors of the Novelty Wood Works, is a native of Bartholomew county, Indiana, born on the 18th of March, 1848. In 1853, he came with his parents to Scott county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1862, when he came to Sauk Centre and was engaged in farming until 1868. He then learned the trade of cabinet maker and also the making of doors, sash, and blinds, which he followed until 1876, after which he was engaged as a millwright until entering his present partnership, in November, 1880. Mr. Hoffman's father was killed by the Indians at West Union, in September, 1863. He was married in 1871, to Harriet C. Frederick, of Wright county, Minnesota. They have four children; Mary N., Annie L., Minnie, and Frances.

P. S. HICKMAN was born in Cumberland, now Atlantic county, New Jersey, on the 11th of September, 1816. At the age of eleven years he went to sea, and was a sailor for twenty-two years, fourteen of which he was a sea captain. He then settled in his native State, and followed farming until 1857, when he came to Dakota county, Minnesota, and thence, in 1862, to Sauk Centre, where he continued farming until 1870, when he engaged in carpenter work. In 1877, he commenced the manufacture of wagons, buggies, etc.; he is now doing a prosperous business. Mr. Hickman was married in 1840, to Deborah Ingersoll, of New Jersey. They have had ten children, nine of whom are living, their names are, Dannelia, Eliza, Sarah, Henrietta, Emma, Adelaide, John J., Richard, and Amelia.

E. J. HARRISON is a native of St. Clair county,



Illinois, born on the 25th of December, 1848. He lived in his native county until 1859, when he came to Minneapolis and remained until 1876, when he came to Sauk Centre and became a partner with Mr. P. Lamb in the mercantile business, which relation continued until January, 1880, when the firm sold out. Mr. Harrison soon began business again in the same line, which he still continues. He was married in August, 1874, to Miss Mary E. Smith, of Maine.

JOHN F. HANNA, son of William Hanna, one of the organizers of the town of Nininger, Dakota county, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 17th of March, 1830. John resided in his native county until 1853, when he came to Nininger, took a claim and remained until 1859, when he went to the Red river country and remained until 1861. Returning to St. Cloud he was engaged with the Minnesota Stage Company until the Indian outbreak in 1862, when he enlisted in a regiment of cavalry and served three months. He then resided one year at Hastings, Minnesota, after which he returned to St. Cloud and resumed the freighting business. In 1866, he took a claim in Getty, Stearns county, on which he resided six years. Since then he has resided in Sauk Centre, and although engaged in other pursuits, he still owns the valuable farm in Getty. Mr. Hanna is at present the efficient clerk of the Sauk Centre House.

CHARLES F. HENDRYX was born at Cooperstown, New York, on the 22d of April, 1847. Attended the common schools of his native town, and afterwards entered Cornell University, at Ithaca, New York, graduating in 1869. He then became a partner with his father, under the firm name of J. I. Hendryx & Son, in the publication of the "Republican and Democrat," at Cooperstown, which he continued from 1870 to 1874. Then came to Minneapolis, and was connected with "The Tribune" until the 1st of August, 1879, when he came to Sauk Centre and purchased the "Sauk Centre Herald," of which he is still proprietor. Mr. Hendryx was married on the 6th of September, 1876, to Fanny Galt, daughter of Col. W. H. H. Taylor, of St. Paul. They have one son, born on the 9th of December, 1880.

ALFRED G. JACQUES, one of the old settlers of Sauk Centre, is a native of Bowdoin, Maine, born on the 18th of July, 1832. When four years old, his parents removed to Somerset county, where the subject of our sketch lived until sixteen

years of age, after which he followed a seafaring life for four years. In 1852, he came to what was then known as Kaposia, near St. Paul, and engaged with the Indian Missionary, Rev. T. S. Williamson, accompanying him to his mission station on the Yellow Medicine river. In 1853, he went to Brooklyn, Hennepin county, where he was engaged in farming until 1860, when he came to Sauk Centre and took a claim near the village, where he has since been engaged in farming; he is also in the insurance business, besides conducting a small tannery. Mr. Jacques was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors from 1866 to 1871, and is at present a member of the board of County Commissioners; he was also a member of the first School Board of Sauk Centre, which position he held for nine years, eight of which he held the office of President. He built the first house at Henderson, now the County seat of Sibley county, and was also engaged in the erection of Fort Ridgely. Mr. Jacques was married in 1857, to Sarah A. Hopper, of Indiana. Of three children which they have had, but two are living; Eva E. and Elsie J.

LUCAS Kells, one of the prominent business men of Sauk Centre, is a native of Green county, New York, born on the 8th of September, 1842. At the age of twelve years, he removed with his parents to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where he learned the trade of harness-maker, at which he was employed until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company F, of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until mustered out at Brownsville, Texas, in August, 1865. In 1866, he came to Sauk Centre, and after a brief period in the harness business, engaged in brokerage, etc., until September, 1880, when he formed a partnership with Solomon Pendergast, and commenced a general banking business, their bank being known as the "Bank of Sauk Centre." Mr. Kells was married in 1873, to Martha Brayman, of New York State. Their children are, Mabel and Blanche.

J. W. KOTERBA was born in Germany, on the 4th of October, 1849. He came to America in 1868, and settled in Iowa, where he acquired the harness maker's trade, which has since been his occupation. He came to Sauk Centre in 1874, and remained until 1876, when he returned to Iowa, which was his home until his final return to Sauk Centre, in February, 1879. Mr. Koterba is now doing quite an extensive business as harness





manufacturer and dealer. He was married in 1875, to Christine Krzba, of Wisconsin. Their children are Joseph and Charles.

P. LAMB was born in Lamoille county, Vermont, on the 1st of December, 1831. When he was eight years old, his parents removed to Windsor county, and settled on a farm, where the subject of our sketch spent his boyhood. At the age of seventeen, he was engaged as clerk in a store, which he continued until 1851, when he came to St. Paul, and was clerk at the Indian trading post at that place. In the fall of 1853, he went to California, and remained till the spring of 1857. In the summer of the latter year, he settled at St. Cloud, and took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, and in the fall, engaged as clerk in a store, which he continued until 1860. He was then manager of Burbank's transportation and shipping business until 1864, and afterwards had charge of the Express and Stage Company, until 1866, when he removed to Sauk Centre. He narrowly escaped death by the Indians in 1862, while in charge of a train of supplies; the timely arrival of a messenger from Fort Abercrombie saved the whole train. Mr. Lamb was book-keeper for Moore & McClure, in Sauk Centre, until 1867, when he engaged in mercantile business on his own account, but sold out in January, 1880. In September following, he accepted his present situation, that of book-keeper for Harmon, Holmes & Co. He was Deputy Auditor of Stearns county one year, has been Postmaster at Sauk Centre, and also a member of the village Council, and is now a member of the Board of Education. Mr. Lamb was married in 1865, to Louisa Tobey, of Wayne county, New York.

E. J. LEAVITT, a native of Rockingham county, New Hampshire, was born on the 14th of September, 1829. In 1845, he removed to Chicopee, where he commenced the study of music, which he afterwards continued in Boston, Massachusetts. In 1855, he located at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he was engaged as music teacher until 1861, when he entered the army and served as a Band Leader until 1865. He then returned to Wisconsin, and was engaged as Band instructor until 1870, when he removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and thence, in 1871, to Sauk Rapids, where he engaged in the hardware business, which he disposed of in 1875, and took a claim in Morrison county, where he resided five years. In December, 1880, he removed to Sauk Centre, and in March following, formed a partnership and en-

gaged in the furniture business which he still continues. Mr. Leavitt was married in 1858, to Mary Carpenter, of Michigan. Of six children born to them, five are living; Olive, Mary, Ernest, Vava, and Justina.

BENJAMIN C. LORD was born in Augusta, Maine, on the 5th of September, 1842. He was reared on his father's farm, but in the fall of 1865, came west, locating at Wabasha, Wisconsin, where he was variously employed, as hotel clerk, stage company's clerk, and Deputy Sheriff. In 1869, he engaged at St. Paul, with the Minnesota Stage Company, and was driver over the Lake Superior route. In 1870, he came to St. Cloud, continuing in the service of the company, and in 1871, was on the route from that place to Fort Abercrombie. In the fall of the same year he was their messenger from Breckenridge to Fort Garry, being the first man over the route. In 1872, he took charge of the company's express and stage office at Sauk Centre, which position he held until the abandonment of the stage line, in January, 1875. He has since been engaged in saloon business and dealing in McCormick's agricultural implements. Mr. Lord was married in December, 1874, to Isabel Smith, of St. Cloud. They have one son, named William M.

CHARLES L. MERRY, one of the pioneers of Sauk Centre, was born in the state of Maine, on the 16th of May, 1811. He was employed on his father's farm until noon on his twenty-first birthday, when he left home, and soon after commenced working on the neighboring farms in summer, and in the lumber woods in winter, continuing the same for about four years. He then began farming in Franklin county, but in 1850, removed to Piscataquis county, and followed the plow until 1857, when he came to Minnesota and settled on a farm about eight miles northwest of Minneapolis. In 1859, he came to Sauk Centre, and settled on the spot which has been his home ever since. Mr. Merry built the first frame house in the township. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Thompson, on the 23d of August, 1834. Of ten children born to them, but six are living.

N. H. MINER was born in Addison county, Vermont, on the 26th of January, 1832. When ten years old he removed with his parents to Franklin county, New York, where he was reared and received his primary education, and afterwards attended Franklin Academy, at Malone, New York.



He studied law with Parmelee & Fitch, of the latter place, and was admitted to the Bar in the fall of 1856. He practiced two years in New York, and then in Waupun, Wisconsin, until 1860, when he removed to Minneapolis. In 1861, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, which was disbanded at the end of one month's service, for the purpose of re-enlisting as a three years regiment, but owing to ill health, Mr. Miner was unable to return to the ranks. In 1862, he joined Captain Northrup's Company in defense of the frontier against the Indians. In 1864, he served in Hatch's Battalion, and in May, 1866, settled at Sauk Centre, where he has since practiced his profession. Mr. Miner has been a member of the Board of Education several years, and a member of the State Legislature in 1866, and again in 1867. He was married in 1858, to Julia E. Martin, who died in 1873, leaving three daughters who are now living; Gertrude E., Helen A., and Jessie F. Mr. Miner's present wife was Miss Kate Martin.

F. W. MANN, a native of Kane county, Illinois, was born on the 14th of October, 1845; his father was an early settler, and a surveyor in that county for twenty years. In August, 1862, the subject of our sketch enlisted in Company B, of the One hundred and twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which his father was Captain, and served until mustered out at Vicksburg, Mississippi, in July, 1865. He remained in Mississippi, engaged with his father in the lumber business, until the following spring, when Gen. Beauregard compelled them to leave, and they returned home. He then learned the moulders' trade, at Elgin, Illinois, and worked there and at other places in that State until August, 1873, when he removed to Sauk Centre. Here he followed the business of driving wells until April, 1880, when he became a partner in the well known firm of Mann & Allison, machine shops and foundry. Mr. Mann was married in 1866, to Julia Parker, of St. Charles, Illinois; they have two children, Fred P. and Cleora B.

W. McNICEE was born in Huntington county, Pennsylvania, on the 10th of September, 1841. At the age of five years, he removed with his parents to Ohio, and thence, in 1849, to Porter county, Indiana, where he resided, with the exception of one year in Pennsylvania, until his removal to Sauk Centre, in August, 1867. Here he took a chin, on which he remained six months, after which he was employed by H. C. Waite, in a flour-

ing mill. In 1868, he went to work in McClure's mills at Sauk Centre, where he continued until 1877, when he accepted his present position, that of head miller at the steam mills of Harmon, Holmes & Co. He is also a partner in the firm of McNiece Bros. & Carpenter, proprietors of the Little Sauk Flour Mills. Mr. McNiece was married in March, 1873, to Miss C. E. Dolson, of Porter county, Indiana; they have one daughter, Ella M.

J. B. PERKINS dates his birth in Broome county, New York, on the 21st of August, 1843. In 1848, he removed with his parents to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and in 1857, to Monroe county in the same State. He was reared to farming pursuits, and received his early education at the schools of Wisconsin. In 1866, he came to Sauk Centre and was engaged in farming until 1871, when he sold his farm and taught school for a number of years. In 1876, he opened a drug store in the village of Sauk Centre, and in 1880, took as a partner, C. M. Sprague, being now the well known firm of Perkins and Sprague. Mr. Perkins was married in 1880, to Ada Hewes, of Wisconsin.

BENJAMIN R. PALMER, a pioneer physician in Stearns county, and for some years an Assistant Surgeon in the United States Army, was born in South Berwick, Maine, on the 15th of March, 1815. Early in life he developed a fondness for study, and purposed to take a full college course. With this end in view, he prepared at Dover and Derry, New Hampshire, and entered Bowdoin College in 1834, but while in the sophomore year, lost his health, and was obliged to leave. In a short time his health was so improved that he commenced reading medicine with Dr. M. Hawks, of Eastport, Maine, finishing with Dr. Peter Fahnestock, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and receiving his diploma from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, in 1844. He practiced eleven or twelve years in Pittsburg, and in 1856 came to Minnesota and located at St. Cloud, which was his home for a number of years. In 1862, he became Acting Assistant Surgeon, United States Army, and served about four years, being stationed most of the time at Sauk Centre and Fort Ripley. Since the close of the Sioux war he has resided in Sauk Centre, where he was the first resident physician. The Doctor has been twice married; first to Miss Julia Brewer, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in May, 1852, who died in November, 1855. His present wife was Miss Anna B. D. Barrows, of





Fryeburgh, Maine, their union taking place in August, 1858.

SOLOMON PENDERGAST is a native of Barnstead, New Hampshire, and was born on the 15th of November, 1833. His early education was received in the public schools of his native town, and afterwards, at Gilmanton Academy, later, he attended Guilford Academy, at Meredith Bridge. In 1856, he came to Minnesota, and after remaining two years in the vicinity of Hutchinson, went to Cincinnati, but returned to Hutchinson one year later, and in the spring of 1861, came to Sauk Centre, and has resided here ever since. First engaged in the mercantile business in company with a Mr. Fish, their store being about one a half miles from town, on the St. Cloud road, but the same fall removed within the present limits of Sauk Centre. During the Indian troubles of 1862, the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Pendergast purchasing the interest of Mr. Fish and conducting the business alone until 1875, when he sold out and engaged in the hardware business in company with Mr. Oakford. His store was burned in the disastrous fire of March, 1870, but at once rebuilt and the business continued. R. J. Wille bought Mr. Oakford's interest in 1877, and the new firm conducted the business until January, 1881, when Mr. Pendergast disposed of his mercantile interests and established the Bank of Sauk Centre, which he is now carrying on. For a number of years he had been interested in a store with O. A. E. Blyberg, at Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, and also a branch store at Audubon, Becker county, both of which were sold to Mr. Blyberg. Mr. Pendergast was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia Chapman, at Minneapolis, in 1859. They have four children, all daughters.

J. L. ROBINS is a native of Windham county, Connecticut, born on the 4th of March, 1836. He grew to manhood in his native county, and resided there until the spring of 1863, when he went into the army as chief clerk in one of the commissary departments, and served until the fall of 1864. He then came to Sauk Centre and bought the valuable eighty-acre tract of land now known as Robbins' and Mendenhall's addition to Sauk Centre, and also pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres. He then went to Ohio and completed his education at Oberlin College, and afterwards removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he conducted a Commercial College until 1870, when he permanently located at Sauk Centre. He has

been engaged most of the time since, in the lumber business, insurance, and real estate. Mr. Robins was Superintendent of Schools at Sauk Centre three years, and has been otherwise identified with prominent local affairs. He was married in 1869, to Lurancie Converse, of Windham county, Connecticut. They have four children; Lilla A., Bessie, Una S., and Ray P.

N. W. RICE dates his birth in Oneida county, New York, on the 26th of June, 1840. His father was by trade a mason, and was employed in different parts of New York State and Wisconsin until 1856, when he died, leaving the subject of our sketch to provide for the family, then residing in Green county, Wisconsin. He remained there until 1861, working at the mason's trade. In December, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, of the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until June, 1865, when he was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee. He then returned to Wisconsin, and was in the livery business and also had control of a mail route until June, 1870, when he came to Sauk Centre. He soon after took a homestead in Swift county, but subsequently returned to Sauk Centre and engaged in the livery business which he still continues. He also kept a hotel in Benson one year, and had a mail contract for four years since coming to Minnesota. Mr. Rice was married in 1860, to Lotta Jackson, of Wisconsin, now deceased. He has six children; Charles A., Nellie G., Lettie L., Guy H., Bert J., and Frank.

C. M. SPRAGUE, a native of Will county, Illinois, was born on the 11th of December, 1846. In 1854, he came to Hastings, Minnesota, where he remained until 1862, when he enlisted in the Minnesota Mounted Rangers. He served one year with them, and afterwards in the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, until he was mustered out at Washington, D. C., in December, 1865. In 1866, he came to Sauk Centre, and was clerk in the store of Joseph Capser for eight years, after which he became a partner, but sold his interest in 1877. He then engaged in the brokerage business until 1880, when he became a partner with J. B. Perkins, in a drug store. Mr. Sprague is Town Clerk of Sauk Centre, and is also financial manager of Keller's fanning-mill manufactory. He was married in 1870, to Amelia E. Wright, of Pennsylvania. They have one child, named Fayette W.

F. E. SEARLE was born in Franklinville, Catta-



raugus county, New York, on the 21st of February, 1853. He attended the common schools, and completed his educational course at Tenbroeck Academy, in his native town. In the winter of 1873, he came west and located at St. Cloud, where he studied law with his brother, D. B. Searle, and was admitted to the Bar in 1876. In the same year he removed to Sauk Centre, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. Mr. Searle is Secretary of the Sauk Centre Board of Education, and one of the Directors of the Public Library, taking an active part in the progress and development of the material interests of the surrounding country.

L. T. STOREY, a native of Morrow county, Ohio, was born on the 16th of April, 1853. He passed through the ordinary routine of a common school education, and afterwards attended the Ohio Central College, at Iberia, in his native county. After leaving college he came to St. Cloud, where he studied law with L. W. Collins, and was admitted to the Bar in 1876. In 1877, he came to Sauk Centre, where, as a lawyer and business man, he has become deservedly popular. He holds the offices of Notary Public, Village Recorder, and Village Attorney. Mr. Storey was united in marriage in 1876, with Miss Phoebe C. Mattison, of Illinois.

ANDREW J. SMITH, proprietor of the Citizens' Bank of Sauk Centre, is a business man of more than ordinary ability. He is a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born on the 4th of January, 1839, but came with his parents to Quebec, Canada, in 1845, where his father was Rector of the High School until his death, several years later. Here Andrew J. was reared, and received a liberal education. After leaving school, he was engaged in the Post-office department four years, and afterwards, mail agent for an ocean line of steamers until the spring of 1867, when he removed to Appleton, Wisconsin, and purchased a half interest in a woolen mill. In the spring of 1872 he sold out, and came to Sauk Centre, and established himself in the banking business on his own responsibility, there being no bank here prior to that time. Mr. Smith was married in 1871, to Annie Dickinson, of Liverpool, England. Of six children which they have had, only three are living; Edith A., Ethel K., and Edna W.

WILLIAM SCHERFFINS, a native of Germany, was born on the 14th of January, 1848. He learned

the trade of harness maker while a boy in his native country. He came to America in 1865, and after a stay of about six months in New York City, settled in Winona, Minnesota. Here he worked at his trade until 1868, when he removed to St. Paul and engaged in the manufacture of horse collars, which he continued until 1870, when he came to Sauk Centre, and has been in the harness business ever since. Mr. Scherffins' harness goods are all his own manufacture, but carries besides a full assortment of everything pertaining to the trade. He was married in January, 1874, to Augusta Burow, of Germany. They have three children; Melvin A., Joseph L., and Leo W.

S. SIMONTON, one of the old settlers of Stearns county, and for the last twelve years, Postmaster at Sauk Centre, dates his birth in Perry county, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of February, 1839. In 1847, he removed with his parents to Illinois, and learned the trade of printer at Joliet. In 1857, the family removed to Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, where our subject remained until 1860, when he came to St. Cloud and took a claim of eighty acres of land, which he disposed of six years later. In 1862, he went to Illinois, and learned telegraph operating, at which he was employed until his return to St. Cloud, in 1867. About this time, his brother, J. H., commenced the publication of the "Sauk Centre Herald," at Sauk Centre, and he soon joined him as a partner. They continued to publish the paper until August, 1879, when they sold it to Charles Hendryx, the present proprietor. Mr. Simonton was united in marriage with Lydia Coons, of Ohio, in 1873. They have one son, Edwin L.

J. H. SIMONTON was also born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, his birth dating on the 16th of November, 1840. In 1847, he went with the family to Will county, Illinois, and thence, in 1857, to Sauk Rapids, where he was engaged as journeyman printer most of the time until 1859, when he came to St. Cloud and became one of the proprietors of the "St. Cloud Times." In 1866, he sold his interest in the "Times," and went to St. Paul to work on the "Pioneer," which he continued until 1867, when he removed to Sauk Centre and started the "Sauk Centre Herald." Soon after, his brother became a partner, and the business was continued and disposed of as previously stated. Mr. Simonton's wife was Miss Jennie Stabler, of Sauk Centre, the marriage taking place in 1871. They have had four children, three of whom are





now living; William A., Benjamin P., and an infant not named.

A. G. WHITNEY was born in Brooklyn, Hennepin county, Minnesota, on the 14th of May, 1860. He moved with his parents, successively, to Fair Haven, St. Cloud, and Clearwater, his mother dying at the latter place in August, 1870. In 1872, he went to live with an uncle at Farmington, Minnesota, where he met with a severe accident, from the effects of which he has never fully recovered; he was dragged under a large field harrow by a runaway team, a distance of thirty-six rods. He attended school in Clearwater for a time, after which he was engaged in teaching. During the last few years he has been in the insurance business, and since August, 1880, has had the district agency for Northern Minnesota, for the Continental Insurance Company, of New York.

G. H. WHITNEY is also a native of Brooklyn, Hennepin county, Minnesota, born in November, 1856. His biography is identical with that of his brother as given above, until his arrival at Farmington. From the latter place, G. H. took a trip through Wisconsin, but returning to Farmington in 1874, and worked on a farm for a few months, then in a flouring mill two years, and again on a farm for one year, since which time he has been a partner with his brother, in the insurance business. Their headquarters is at Sauk Centre.

H. WUTKE, carriage manufacturer and blacksmith, was born in Germany, on the 30th of March, 1845. He learned the blacksmith trade in his native country and afterwards served in the Prussian army from 1861 to 1870. He then came to America, and worked in St. Paul and Minneapolis until 1872, after which he was engaged for a time on a surveying expedition. In 1874, he came to Sauk Centre and worked at his trade and farming until 1875, when he erected his present manufacturing establishment. An average of five men are employed in those shops. Mr. Wutke was married in 1876, to Miss Minnie Fritze, of Wisconsin. They have one child, named Adolph.

#### SAUK CENTRE TOWNSHIP.

FERDINAND BORGMANN, one of the pioneers of the western part of Stearns county, was born in Westphalia, Prussia, on the 24th of May, 1825. He worked on a farm, when not attending school, until twenty-one years of age. In 1846, became a soldier in the Prussian army, serving through the war in Germany in 1848, by which Prussia became a constitutional State. In 1851, came to the United

States, locating at Toledo, Ohio. After a few months, moved to Iowa, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for four years. In 1855, he visited Kansas and Nebraska with a desire to find a future home, but returned only to look in another direction. In 1856, he removed to Minnesota, locating in Lake George township, Stearns county, which was his home for eight years. In 1865, he came to his present farm in Sauk Centre township, where he now lives, having a well furnished farm and a comfortable home. He has another farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Ashley township. He has filled the office of Supervisor for seven terms. He was married to Miss Antoinette E. Sherman in 1854. They have eight living children.

S. G. BARNARD was born in Oxford county, Maine, on the 23d of July, 1836. His father was one of the pioneers of Oxford county, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. His grandfather was in the naval service during the Revolutionary war, and was captured six times by the British. At the age of eighteen years, Mr. Barnard left home and became an apprentice in a printing office in the city of Portland, Maine. After serving one year, he went into a printing office at Natick, Massachusetts, and the following year commenced the study of book-keeping in Boston, completing a full course at the Business College, after which he was employed as book-keeper for some time. In 1858, he came west, and located in Otsego, Wright county, Minnesota, where he taught school and farmed till 1862, when he came to his present farm in Sauk Centre, where he has lived since, with the exception of two years. When the Indians drove the people from their homes in 1862, he, with his family, went to Anoka, remaining two years, then returned to his farm. Mr. Barnard married Miss Sarah Jane Barnard, on the 3d of February, 1860. They have three children.

HENRY BOTZ was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 30th of December, 1810. He learned the weaving business in his native country, emigrated to the United States in 1852, and located in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, and after some time, to Brown county. In 1870, came to Stearns county, Minnesota, and located on his present farm in Sauk Centre, and still resides on the same. He was married to Miss Catherine Dorrweiler, on the 13th of November, 1836. They have seven living children.

CONRAD BOTZ was born in Ozaukee county, Wis-



consin, on the 4th of June, 1854. He is the eighth child in his father's family, and lives on the homestead, carrying on his father's farm. Married Miss Annie M. Zapf, on the 6th of July, 1876. They have had four children, but two of whom are living.

DANIEL BUCKLEY was born in Canada, on the 15th of January, 1844. During his youth, he worked on a farm and in the pineries until 1870, when he came on a prospecting trip through Minnesota to the Red River Valley, returning to Canada the same season. The next year he again visited Minnesota, and located on a farm in section thirty-four, Sauk Centre township, on which he has lived ever since, although employed in the pineries several winters. He was married on the 3d of January, 1881.

A. CLEVELAND, (deceased) a native of Vermont, was born in the year 1800. He lived for a time in the state of New York, but moved to the state of Ohio in 1840, thence to Michigan, and in 1867, came to Minnesota, and located on a farm in Sauk Centre, on which he lived till his death in 1875. He married Miss Susan Sill in 1823, who died in 1840. In March, 1841, he married Miss E. Judson, and his widow still makes her home on the farm. Two of their sons, Addison and George, conduct the farming interests, and live with their mother.

G. E. DAVIS, one of the pioneers of the town, and a native of Merrimack county, New Hampshire, was born on the 26th of February, 1839. He learned the trade of machinist, and worked at that business for a number of years. In 1856, he came to Illinois, making that State his home for two years, then in the month of June, 1858, came to Sauk Centre township, and was employed for some time on the mill-dam which was constructed at the present site of Sauk Centre. In 1859, he took a claim on sections fifteen and twenty-two, in the township of Sauk Centre. In 1862, he enlisted in the Second Minnesota Battery, serving three years. During the time of his soldier life, he was confined in the hospitals at Nashville and Murfreesboro' for six months, and has never fully recovered from injuries received while in the army. On being discharged, he visited his friends in the East but soon returned to Minnesota. He worked a number of years at the carpenter business, and in 1868, came to his present farm in Sauk Centre township, where he has lived ever since. He married Miss Mary Bradley, July 20th, 1868. They have one child, Eva May.

TOBIAS ENGEL, a native of Switzerland, was born on the 17th of January, 1847. His parents emigrated to America when Tobias was but an infant, locating in the county of Dubuque, Iowa, on a farm. After nine years, the family removed to Olmsted county, Minnesota. His father was one of the early settlers of that county. Mr Engel lived with his parents till 1879, when he came to the town of Sauk Centre and located on section twelve. He married Miss Elizabeth Schuyler, on the 5th of March, 1869. They have four living children.

PARKER C. HARDER, a native of Steuben county, New York, was born on the 25th of December, 1837. He spent his boyhood under the parental roof, but after attaining his majority, moved to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he remained till 1861, when he moved to Webster City, Iowa, and thence to Minnesota in 1878, stopping for some time near Minneapolis, and then to his farm in section eighteen, Sauk Centre township. He served for three years during the Rebellion, in the Seventh Iowa Cavalry. He married Miss Eliza Seely, of Webster City, Iowa, September 29th, 1862. Their children are, Harriet E., Harry C., Everton B., Lillie G., Daniel P., Frederick, Clara, and Mand.

PETER KLEIN was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 18th of December, 1835. The family emigrated to the United States when the subject of our sketch was but seven years old, and located in Outagamie county, Wisconsin. He lived with his parents till 1862, when he began to farm for himself on an adjacent farm. In 1866, he moved to Stearns county, Minnesota, and located on a farm in the township of St. Martin for about two years, and then removed to his present farm in the township of Sauk Centre. He married Miss Anna M. Miller in 1862, who died on the 27th of June, 1877. His present wife was Miss Dora Friedrich, to whom he was married on the 16th of July, 1878. Mr. Klein is the father of eight children, of whom two are living.

J. D. PANGBURN was born in Albany county, New York, on the 3d of October, 1802. His grandfather settled in the county of his nativity before the revolutionary war, and his father was also born and raised there. Mr. Pangburn worked on his father's farm till he was about thirty years of age, when he moved to Saratoga county, and commenced farming for himself. He next removed to Illinois, and thence, after two years, to Monroe county, Wisconsin, where he lived nine





years. In 1866, he removed to the farm in Sauk Centre township where he still resides. Despite the weight of more than three score and ten years, Mr. Pangburn continues to manage his own farm. He was married to Miss Polly Houek, on the 8th of May, 1825. They have eight children.

JOHN RUE, a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 6th of February, 1834. While Mr. Rue was a small boy the family moved to Ohio, where they lived until 1855, and came to Olmsted county, Minnesota. In 1866, Mr. Rue came to Stearns county, and took a claim in section twenty-four, which, by good management and industry, now affords himself and family a comfortable home. He being among the early settlers of Stearns county, suffered many privations, but, having a pioneer spirit, overcame all. He married Miss Mary Jane Schuyler, on the 23d of April, 1863. They have two children living.

HENRY SPRAGUE was born in Chenango county, New York, on the 22d of September, 1808. The following year the family moved to Ontario county, and in 1823, came to Oakland county, Michigan. When Mr. Sprague was about nineteen years of age, he left home and commenced to work at the carpenter business. He followed his trade in Michigan till 1838, when he went to Iroquois county, Illinois, following the same business. In 1854, he came to Dakota county, Minnesota, making his home there until 1865, when he moved to his present farm on section eleven, in Sauk Centre township, where he still resides. He married Miss L. C. Walker, a native of Maine, on the 14th of March, 1833. They have four children.

MARTIN H. SMITH was born in the town of Jefferson, Schohaire county, New York, on the 24th of January, 1820. In 1832, the family moved to Geauga county, Ohio, where the subject of this sketch attended the public schools of the neighborhood, and the Academy at Concord and Lenox, Ohio, making his father's house his home until 1844, when he left the parental roof, and went to Michigan Central College, from which institution he graduated, and soon began to preach the gospel, holding protracted meetings in different parts of the State until 1849. Mr. Smith was identified with the Free Will Baptist Church. Then he went to the state of New York, being pastor in different churches till 1856, when he came to Minnesota, and located in the town of Eyota, Olmsted county. He lived in various parts of the State, organizing churches and preaching the gospel for

five years. In 1861, he came to his present farm, but in a short time, because of the Indian outbreak, moved to the southern part of the State, and thence to Wisconsin. In 1875, he returned to his farm on which he has lived since that time. His home is located on section thirty-four. He married Miss Mary A. Holmes on the 28th of March, 1849. They have five children.

L. M. THOMASON, a native of Roanoke county, Virginia, was born on the 30th of November, 1828. In 1843, the family removed to Putnam county, Indiana. After helping his father till he was eighteen years of age, he served an apprenticeship of two years in Ladoga, Montgomery county, learning the blacksmith trade. At the expiration of his apprenticeship, he formed a partnership with his former master. This copartnership continued for two years, when he opened a shop of his own in the same town, and controlled it for four years, then engaged in the mercantile business for two years. Then moved on a farm, and after eight years, removed to Boone county, Indiana, where he kept a store until 1865. He then made a tour through Minnesota, but soon returned to Indiana. In 1867, he returned to Minnesota, and the following year bought his present farm, and has lived on it ever since. He is one of the most extensive farmers in the county, and has his farm in a good state of cultivation. He married Miss Eveline Wilson in 1848, who died January 20th, 1851. He married for a second wife, Miss H. Spencer, in August, 1853. Mr. Thomason is the father of eight children, five of whom are living.

ODDY TRUAX was born in Monroe county, Ohio, on the 3d of January, 1833. While young, he worked with his father at the carpenter business. After becoming of age, Mr. Truax went to Indiana, where he engaged in farming pursuits till 1863, when he came to Minnesota, locating in Scott county. He enlisted in Company A, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving till the close of the war. After receiving his discharge, returned to his former home, but in 1866, moved to Sauk Centre, and the following spring took a homestead in section thirty-four, which has since been his home, with the exception of two years that he lived on a rented farm in Todd county. He married Miss Elizabeth Salmon, on the 2d of June, 1860. They have three children.

JOSIAH WOOD, a native of New York, was born on the 2d of September, 1828. When he was



twelve years old, the family moved to Jefferson county, and in 1844, to Wisconsin. The following year, Mr. Wood left home, and spent seven years in roaming over the States. In about 1856, located in New York, and learned the wagon makers' trade, and after spending three years in that shop, returned to his father's home in Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade and taught school. In 1861, he came to Minnesota and located in Blue Earth county, on a farm. In 1863, enlisted in Company E, of the Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving about two years. On receiving his discharge, returned to Blue Earth county, but soon after, sold his farm and came to Sauk Centre township. In a short time, he went to Fort Wadsworth in the employ of the Government, but in about eight years, returned to his farm, which has been his home ever since. He married Miss Naomi S. Cooper on the 5th of May, 1861. They have two children.

## SPRING HILL.

### CHAPTER CXV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—RELIGIOUS—ORGANIZATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the southwestern portion of the county, and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 5,398 are under cultivation. The surface is chiefly a high rolling prairie, except along the Sauk river, which waters a few sections in the eastern part, and is bordered by a narrow belt of timber. Stony brook rises in the northwest part of the town, flows in a southeasterly direction, and enters the Sauk river on section twenty-four. This, and several other small streams which rise in the town, are fed by fine large springs, usually found on the high lands, and from which fact the town derives its name. The soil is a heavy clay loam with a clay subsoil, except along the Sauk river, where it is more sandy.

The first settler in this town was Jesse B. Getchell, who made a claim on the east side of Sauk river in 1857. He is still living there, but has been absent a portion of the time since.

West of the river, but in the eastern part of the town, the following settlers made claims in 1860: Peter Gan, John F. Unger, John A. Schoenborn,

Zeno Och, George Rauch, and Joseph Rauch. The first three are deceased, but the others are now living here. Since then, the population has steadily increased until in 1880, there were 548 persons residing in the town.

The first child born was Mary Och, in July, 1860. She is now the wife of Joseph Metzger, and resides in Oak township.

\*The first death was John A. Schoenborn, in 1863.

The first marriage also took place in 1863, the parties being Frank Aegner and Miss Anna Petre.

The first school was held in the summer of 1867, by Henry Durr, in a frame schoolhouse on section twenty-seven; it was removed about eight years ago to section twenty-two, where it is still in use. Besides this, there are two other buildings in the township, one situated on section thirteen, and the other on section twenty-eight.

The first church was a log building, erected on section twenty-two about 1864. It was burned about ten years ago, and in its stead has been erected a commodious frame church, adjoining which is a brick parsonage, erected in 1881.

This territory had been included in some township organization since 1858, but in 1871, Spring Hill was organized with its present boundaries. The first election was held at the residence of F. W. Lenz, on the 10th of July, at which the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, Nicholas Hennen, Chairman, John Gross, and Gerhard Stalberger; Clerk, F. W. Lenz; Assessor, Andrew Stalberger; and Treasurer, Conrad Kerkhof.

The report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 64,830 bushels; oats, 15,438 bushels; corn, 3,030 bushels; barley, 610 bushels; potatoes, 3,264 bushels; wild hay, 1,904 tons; apples, 7 bushels; wool, 406 pounds; and butter, 14,430 pounds.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

REV. AMBROSUS LETHERT was born in Germany, on the 30th of October, 1854. He emigrated to the United States in 1870, remaining four years in Pennsylvania, then came to Minnesota and entered St. John's College, from which he graduated and was ordained a priest on the 1st of November, 1879. In the month of January, 1880, he was stationed at Spring Hill in charge of St. Michael's church. He has a fine residence just completed, near the church. His charge includes the towns of Spring Hill, Lake George, and part of Lake Henry.

FREDERICK W. LENZ dates his birth in Prussia, on the 22d of November, 1841. He came to





America with his parents, who located in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, in 1850. In 1860, they removed to Belle Plaine, Scott county, Minnesota, and the following year, to St. Peter. Here Frederick taught in the public schools for three years, after which he came to Stearns county, and was engaged in teaching one year at Richmond, and the same length of time in Spring Hill, then St. Martin township. At the latter place he met and married Miss Mary Schoenborn, and soon after, removed to his present residence on section twenty-two. In 1871, Mr. Lenz drafted and circulated a petition for the organization of Spring Hill. He was the first Town Clerk, and gave the town its name. He has filled several official positions since, and during his residence in St. Martin, was elected to a seat on the Board of County Commissioners. In 1868, he secured the establishment of the Post-office and mail route, and was the first Postmaster in the town. On the 17th of January, 1876, his wife died, leaving four children; Mary, Christian, Peter W., and John; another, Elizabeth, died in infancy. Mr. Lenz chose his second wife, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Brown, *nee* Unger, the marriage taking place on the 6th of November, 1878. They have two children; Theresa and Joseph.

JOSEPH ODERMANN, a native of Prussia, was born in the year 1851. He emigrated to the United States in 1867, stopping for a few weeks in Wisconsin. Then came to Minnesota, first to Cold Spring City, then to Richmond for several years, and in 1870, removed to Spring Hill, and still resides in this town. He learned the blacksmith trade in the old country, and has followed it through life. He built a shop on section twenty-two, and in 1875, moved it to his present location in section twenty-one. He has been Town Clerk for the last five years, and School district Clerk since the organization of district number thirty-eight. In 1875, a fire destroyed his residence with most of its contents, but by his energy, he soon regained his former comfortable condition. He married Miss Mary Flesch on the 10th of November, 1875, who was born in Fond-du-Lac county, Wisconsin. Their children are, Margaret, John, and Barney.

ZENO OCH. The subject of this sketch, a native of Hessian, Germany, was born on the 12th of April, 1834. His father, Michael Och, was a farmer and carpenter by trade. Zeno was left an orphan at an early age, his mother dying when he was about one year old, and his father, when

he was but ten years of age. In 1846, Michael Kempf, an old friend of the family, brought him to America. Mr. Kempf located on a farm in the state of New York, where for eight years, Zeno toiled faithfully, when he determined to make his own fortune by personal effort. With the small amount of money he had saved, and a scanty supply of clothing, he proceeded to Fond-du-Lac county, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1860, when he came to Minnesota, and selected his present pleasant location in section fifteen, Spring Hill township. He was among the early settlers of this town, and faced the privations incident to a pioneer life. The first wheat he had for the market, he sold in St. Cloud in 1862, for forty-nine cents per bushel. He was instrumental in securing the organization of the township, and has served several terms as Supervisor, and is a friend to all matters looking to the public good. He married Miss Walberga Spath, in 1859. They have nine children; John, Mary, Joseph, Cillea, Magdalin, Mathias, Anna, Zeno, and Michael.

## WAKEFIELD.

### CHAPTER CXVI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT —  
COLD SPRING CITY—ORGANIZATION — SCHOOLS —  
CHURCHES — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIO-  
GRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the southeast portion of the county. It contains an area of 23,040 acres, of which 3,235 are under cultivation, and embraces the whole of township 123 north, range 30 west. The surface is undulating, and in places, quite broken, with here and there a patch of open prairie. The greater portion of the town is covered with brush and poplar groves, except where removed for purposes of improvement. The soil is variable, but chiefly a dark loam, and very productive. The Sank river enters the town on section thirty, and crosses in an easterly direction, forming an excellent water-power at Cold Spring City.

In the fall of 1852, Ashley C. Riggs, now of Monticello, opened an Indian trading post at this place. He conveyed his goods up the Sank river from Sank Rapids, in a batteau. It does not ap-



pear, however, that he remained more than one season.

In 1853, William Buchanan, being directed by Gen. Lowry, then residing near St. Cloud, made a claim near the present site of Cold Spring City. He was accompanied by a number of Winnebago Indians, who assisted him in the erection of a log cabin, but only remained a few weeks.

In the spring of 1855, a party of Germans settled in the eastern portion of the town, near the river. Their names and location of claims, as near as can be ascertained, were as follows: Nicholas Jacoby settled on section fourteen, and still resides there; J. Maselter settled on the same section, and also remains on the homestead; Nicholas Hansen located on section twelve, and is still there; John Theis and John Fuchs settled on section fourteen, but both have been dead for some time. Nicholas Kirsch made a claim on section thirteen; he is also dead. John Batice Arcenault and Samuel Wakefield made claims on the present site of Cold Spring City in 1856. Mr. Arcenault seems to have included the greater portion of the town site in his claim; he built the first house within the present limits of the village, it being located on the creek, about eighty rods from the river.

**COLD SPRING CITY.**—In the fall of 1856, Z. Gordon, Joseph Gibson, Seth Turner, and a Mr. Strout, purchased the greater portion of Mr. Arcenault's claim, and had this village surveyed and platted. They began the improvement of the water power, and built a saw mill during the winter of 1856-57.

In 1862, John Fumade started a small store, and the following year, Turner and Buss also opened a general store. They were followed by the Maurin Brothers in 1863, who opened a mercantile establishment, and have gradually increased their business until they have now one of the largest business houses in this part of the State. Soon after coming here, they purchased the water-power, but disposed of it in 1865, to Thompson, Clarke, and Waite, who erected a flouring mill, which was burned after running a little over a year. It was re-built in 1868, by Clarke and Waite, but the latter purchased the property in 1870, and still owns it. It is three and a half stories high, including the basement, and has seven run of stones, one set of corrugated, and three sets of smooth rolls, and a capacity of two hundred and twenty-five barrels per day. It is now being remodeled to a full roller mill. Al-

though ten miles intervene between Cold Spring City and the nearest railroad station, yet the excellent quality of flour manufactured by this mill, and the unquestioned responsibility and honorable business standing of its owners, has established a wheat market here, second to none in the country, and which, to a very great extent, has been the means of making this village one of the most active in this part of the State.

This town was organized in 1858, and named Springfield, but changed to Wakefield in 1870. The territory first embraced in the town included the present township of Luxemburg, until the organization of the latter in 1866, when Springfield was reduced to the present limits of Wakefield.

The first election was held on the 27th of May, 1858, at which the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, Samuel Wakefield, Chairman, G. W. Thompson, and N. Schindler; Assessor, Andrew Schuldeis; Justices of the Peace, D. B. Sutton and John Schneider; Town Clerk, Joseph Gibson; Constables, V. Chevretils and S. Turner; and Overseer of roads, M. Brixius.

The first school in the township was held in the house of Michael Nibler, on section nine, in 1859, by Frank Kuhn. A log school house was erected the following year, which was superseded by a frame building, in 1876.

There are now four schools in the town in which school is kept during the regular terms.

The first mass was held by the well known missionary, Father Pierz, in the house of M. Fuchs, in 1855. A small log church was built in 1857, on section twelve, which burned about 1860. The present frame church was erected, near the site of the old one, a few years later. It is named St. Jacob's Church.

Father Leo erected a small frame chapel, called St. Bonafacius Church, on a little hill, about one mile east of Cold Spring City, in 1877-78, and also commenced the erection of a church in the village, which is yet unfinished.

The products of Wakefield in 1880, were: wheat, 52,203 bushels; oats, 28,722 bushels; corn, 7,810 bushels; barley, 193 bushels; rye, 210 bushels; potatoes, 3,433 bushels; wild hay, 1,442 tons; apples, 55 bushels; wool, 1,071 pounds; and butter, 16,600 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN FISCHBACH is a native of Luxemburg, Germany, born on the 18th of November, 1818. He came to America in 1855, and settled in Brown





county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming until 1862, when he came to St. Martin, Stearns county, and continued farming until the fall of 1875. He then came to Cold Spring City, and built the hotel known as the Farmer's Home, of which he has since been proprietor. Mr. Fischbach was united in marriage with Mary Weber, of Luxemburg, in 1845; she died in 1871, leaving six children; Mary, Katie, Margaret, Lizzie, Mathias, and John. He was again married in 1872, to Katrina Jacks, of Germany.

JOHN FISCHBACH, JR. is a son of the subject of our last sketch, and was born in Prussia, on the 9th of December, 1846. He came to America with his parents, remaining at home until 1862, when he came to Cold Spring City. In 1864, he enlisted in Company G, of the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the fall of 1865, when he was mustered out at Fort Snelling. He then went to St. Cloud and learned the trade of harness-maker. After acquiring his trade, by industry and economy he soon saved sufficient money to enable him to attend three terms at the University, at Fayette, Iowa. In 1871, he was in the harness business at Cold Spring City, but soon after went to Winona, where he perfected himself in carriage and ornamental painting, for which he evinced great talent, and to which his time is now exclusively devoted. He has also taught school three terms, in Stearns county. Mr. Fischbach was united in marriage with Julia E. Fadden, of New York State, in 1868. Of eight children, but five are living; Mary A., Frank J., Matthew L., Leo L., and Peter P.

MATHIAS FISCHBACH, also a son of John Fischbach, Sr., was born in Luxemburg, on the 18th of August, 1851. He came to America and to Stearns county with his parents. In 1872, he commenced an apprenticeship to the harness-maker's trade, at Cold Spring City, but finished it at Winona. In 1874, he went to Wisconsin and was engaged in various pursuits in that State and elsewhere until his return to Cold Spring City in 1879. He then began working for his brother, but since the spring of 1880, has been in the harness business on his own account.

FRED HECKLIN dates his birth in Germany, on the 26th of November, 1831. He came to America in 1851, first locating at Racine, Wisconsin. In the spring of 1853, he removed to Mankato, Minnesota, and nine months later, to Carver county, taking a claim five miles from Chaska. After re-

maining seven years on this farm he bought the Chaska House, at Chaska, and run it for six years and also kept a meat market. In 1860, he was elected County Surveyor of Carver county, and served two years. In 1862, he was elected Sheriff, and re-elected at each succeeding election for eleven years. In 1873, he removed to Todd county, built a saw-mill and run it till 1877, when he located at Cold Spring City, and has since conducted a meat market here. Mr. Hecklin was married in 1852, to Carrie Hoelsken, of Germany. They have had eight children, six of whom are living; Fred. P., Bertha, Hugo, Ida, Gustave, and Mollie.

JOHN KRAY, proprietor of the Central House, and for twenty-eight years a resident of Minnesota, was born in Germany, on the 22d of March, 1833. He came to America in 1849, remaining in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, until 1851, when he removed to Racine, and thence, in 1853, to St. Paul, Minnesota. The following year he went to Scott county and took a claim near Shakopee, on which he resided eight years. He then rented his farm, removed to Shakopee, and run an express between there and St. Paul until the route became unnecessary by the building of a railroad. In 1873, he came to Cold Spring City, and has been in the hotel business here ever since. Mr. Kray was united in marriage with Katrina Hartmann, of Germany, in 1855. Of nine children, the result of this union, but five are living; Mary, Philip, Kate, Valentine, and Joseph H.

FRANK F. KUHN was born on the 10th of August, 1829, in Bavaria, Germany. He enjoyed the school privileges of his native country, left the parental roof in 1849, and emigrated to the United States. After spending one winter in Pennsylvania, went to Cincinnati, Ohio, making it his home for seven years. Then removed to Minnesota, and located in this township in 1857. He taught the first school in the district of which he is now a patron, in the winter of 1859. Was married to Miss Margaret Snider, on the 4th of May, 1854. They have had eight children; five of whom are living.

MARCUS MAURIN is a native of Austria, born on the 22d of April, 1837. His father was a goldsmith and jeweler, doing business in nearly every part of Europe. In 1855, the subject of our sketch came to America, and remained in Chicago two years, engaged in mercantile business. In 1857, he came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and was engaged there and in various parts of the State, as



traveling merchant, until 1863, when he located at Cold Spring City and engaged in mercantile and real estate business in company with his brother. He also purchased the water-power at this point, but sold it in 1865. Mr. Maurin was married in 1863, to Mary A. Laner, of Chicago. Their children are, Mary F., Louisa M., Annie M., Peter P., and Ros M. The firm of Maurin Brothers, is the heaviest in the Sank valley, if not on the Upper Mississippi, having branch stores at St. Joseph, Little Falls, and Elizabeth. Their store building at Cold Spring City is divided into two departments; that devoted to general merchandise is 100 x25 feet, and the hardware department 100x18 feet, besides a large grain elevator. Their merchandise sales for 1881, amounted to \$185,000, and their grain sales to \$250,000.

JOSEPH MEDVED was born in Austria, on the 6th of January, 1850. He was engaged in mercantile business in different countries of Europe until 1870, when he entered the Austrian army and served until 1873. He then came to America, locating at Cold Spring City, and was in the employ of Maurin Brothers until July, 1879, when he embarked in the mercantile business on his own account. Although a young man, Mr. Medved, by his energy and ability is doing a very prosperous business; his sales amounting to \$35,000 annually.

JOHN SAUER dates his birth in Iowa, on the 24th of November, 1852. At an early age, he removed with his parents to Stillwater, Minnesota, and soon after, to St. Cloud, where he remained until 1871. He then removed to Cold Spring City, where he learned the trade of wagon-maker, which has been his business ever since. In May, 1878, he started in business on his own account and is quite an extensive manufacturer of wagons, buggies, sleds, etc.; he also deals in wagon and carriage materials, his business amounting to from \$2,500 to \$3,000 annually. Mr. Sauer was married in 1879, to Elizabeth Kinzer, of Minnesota. Their children are, Joseph and Nicholas.

NICHOLAS WEBER was born in Luxemburg, Germany, on the 29th of October, 1842. He came to America with his parents in 1856, and after one year's stay in Illinois, came to Rockville, Stearns county, where our subject remained, working on a farm about four years. He then went to Iowa, and in 1861, enlisted in the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, and served until mustered out at Clinton, Iowa, in August, 1865. He then returned to

Rockville, where he continued farming until 1880, since which time he has been in the employ of Maurin Brothers, of Cold Spring City.

## ZION.

Zion lies in the southern part of the county and has an area of 23,040 acres, of which 7,390 are under cultivation. The surface is generally a rolling prairie, with numerous tracts of marsh, or "hay sloughs," in which appear a large number of boulders.

The soil is a clayey loam with a clay subsoil.

The first settler appears to have been Michael F. Plantikow, a Prussian, who settled on section thirty-two, in the summer of 1860. He was soon followed by David Moede, M. Nehring, Gottlieb, and Weber, who settled near by. During the same season, John Blouigen, H. B. Meyer, and others settled in the north part of the town.

This town was a part of Verdale until 1867, when a separate organization was effected, and the name of Zion adopted.

The first child born in the town was Augusta Plantikow, on the 20th of October, 1860. The first death was Mrs. Hannah L. Nehring, in 1869.

The first marriage was in 1862, the contracting parties being John Schlick and Miss Veronika Ley.

The first school was taught in 1866, by John Moore, in a log school house which is yet in use.

The first religious service was held in the winter of 1860-61. A German Evangelical Church was organized the fall before, and a class formed with M. F. Plantikow, leader. The congregation now numbers one hundred and twenty, and services are held every Sabbath. Their church building was erected in 1871; it is well finished and commodious.

This is one of the best agricultural towns in the county, and although the first sod was turned but twenty years ago, and but sparsely settled for a number of years afterward, it now has the largest cultivated acreage of any town in Stearns county. The population, according to the last census, was 661 persons.

The agricultural report for 1880 shows the following products: wheat, 75,012 bushels; oats, 47,415 bushels; corn, 6,045 bushels; barley, 1,418 bushels; rye, 120 bushels; buckwheat, 3 bushels; potatoes, 2,876 bushels; beans, 3 bushels; culti-





vated hay, 11 tons; wild hay, 2,148 tons; apples, 26 bushels; tobacco, 30 pounds; wool, 2,254 pounds; butter, 12,462 pounds; and honey, 5 pounds.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOSEPH M. GILLITZER, a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born on the 18th of March, 1860. He received his education, chiefly in his native land. He emigrated to America in 1876, locating

in Kansas, where he engaged in teaching school. The climate did not agree with him, and he suffered severely from asthma. After about one and a half years experience in that State, by the advice of his physicians he came to Minnesota and settled in Stearns county. He has regained his health, and been very successful in teaching, his large gift of earnestness and zeal having won him a prominent position as an instructor. His parents still reside in Germany.

## WRIGHT COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CXVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — PHYSICAL FEATURES —  
EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — GRASSHOP-  
PERS — POLITICAL CHANGES — THE WRIGHT COUNTY  
WAR — THE GINSENG TRADE — THE OLD JAIL —  
WAR MATTERS — THE INDIAN SCARES.

Wright county is situated in the east central portion of the State, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, by which it is separated from Sherburne and Anoka counties on the north. Its eastern boundary is Hennepin county, most of which line is marked by Crow river. Carver and McLeod counties south, and Meeker and Stearns west, the latter partly marked by Clearwater river, complete its boundary. With more than half its outline marked by streams, its shape is irregular. Its extreme length from east to west is thirty-six miles, while its average breadth is not far from twenty miles, north and south.

Along the Mississippi and Crow rivers, as well as on the Clearwater river, are found excellent water-powers, some of which are already utilized.

The surface of the county is gently undulating, with occasional portions somewhat hilly. A few beautiful prairies, bordered by brush land, are found mostly in the northern part; the remainder being timber and meadow land.

It is dotted with numerous lakes, whose clear,

lucid waters enrich the scenery and furnish unlimited enjoyment to sportsmen and pleasure-seekers. Some of these lakes are already becoming popular, and are destined to become favorite watering places. No town in the county is destitute of lakes, while myriad streams, which, as well as the lakes, are fed by springs, afford ample attraction to stock growers and farmers, while serving the further purpose of drainage, thereby rendering its area free from the malarious influences existing in less favored localities. The soil is very fertile, and produces in abundance, all the varied list of cereals and vegetables grown in the Northwest. Year by year the timbered area is lessening, and fertile fields supplant the primeval forests, as do pleasant rural homes the late wigwam of the native, or the still more recent claim shanty of the early pioneer.

Wright county, with other territory west of the Mississippi river, was once included in the Spanish claims; later by the French, and in 1803, with the lands embraced in the Louisiana purchase, ceded to the United States. The early pioneers found other claimants in that once powerful tribe — the Dakotas, whose rights were relinquished by the treaty of July 23d, 1851. But back of all these were that long departed race, the Mound Builders, whose only record is the mounds still plainly marked along the principal streams, and on the margins of many lakes. No county in this his-



toric valley furnishes more frequent evidence of a former habitation by this mysterious people, of whose origin, history, or ultimate fate we know absolutely nothing. That they were the first human dwellers here is not a matter of doubt, but whether their disappearance is due to war, famine, disease, or other causes, is yet, and may ever remain an impenetrable mystery. A few crumbling human bones, bits of rude pottery, and a few imperfectly fashioned tools, are all that is left behind, and of the mounds we only know that:—

"A race that long has passed away  
Built them! A disciplined and populous race,  
Heaped, with long toil, the earth, while yet the Greek  
Was hewing the Pentelicus to forms  
Of symmetry, and rearing on its rock,  
The glittering Parthenon. \* \* \* \* "

But the hands that reared these piles have long since mingled with the mother earth, leaving but meager records of their work.

"The solitude of centuries untold  
Has settled where they dwelt. \* \* \* All is gone—  
All save the piles of earth that hold their bones—  
The platforms where they worshiped unknown gods—  
The barriers which they builded from the soil,  
To keep the foe at bay. \* \* \* \* \*  
Thus change the forms of being. Thus arise  
Races of living things, glorious in strength,  
And perish."

**EARLY SETTLEMENT.**—The first white men to locate homes within the present borders of Wright county, were John McDonald, Sen., and David McPherson, in July, 1852. Their claims were in the present town of Oscego, where the former still lives. He is the oldest settler in the county, and is prominently identified with its organization, as is shown by his biography elsewhere given. Mr. McPherson's residence here was brief. The reputed wealth of the Pike's Peak gold fields induced his emigration thither, from which locality he afterwards removed to Wisconsin. During the summer and autumn of 1852, several claims were taken near Monticello. Prominent among these early claimants were H. W. McCrory and F. M. Cadwell, the former of whom was one of the first officers of the county.

No beaten track or highway then existed between these settlements—naught save the tortuous Indian trail winding along the margin of the river; and it was not until the spring of 1854, that a wagon road was cut between these points by Mr. McCrory and others. Five days were required to hew out this rough passage through the forest, which even then was a barely passable route.

About this time settlers began to locate in other parts of the county, as will appear in the several town histories following.

**ORGANIZATION.**—The act providing for the organization of Wright county passed the Territorial Legislature, and was approved February 20th 1865. Its prescribed boundaries were substantially as before given, though subsequent changes have occurred in contiguous territory by the formation of new counties, and the annihilation of Davis county, which was then named as the western boundary. The name given the county was in honor of Hon. Silas Wright, a prominent New York politician of that time, and was adopted as a compromise after a somewhat animated discussion. John McDonald, Sen., Archie Downie, and J. D. Taylor, were appointed County Commissioners. Monticello was designated as the county seat, and there the Board of Commissioners held their first meeting on the 9th of April, 1855, the first-named Commissioner being chosen as Chairman. John O. Haven was appointed Clerk of the board and Register of Deeds; Herbert W. McCrory, Sheriff; William Creighton, District Attorney; James C. Beekman, County Treasurer; Israel Heard, Judge of Probate; John O. Haven, County Surveyor; Row Brasie, Coroner; Selah Markham and Joseph Brown, Assessors.

Three voting precincts were formed with the following described boundaries: Big Bend precinct, bounded on the east by a line running due south from John O. Haven's northwest corner on the Mississippi river, to the south line of the county, south and west by the county lines, and north by the Mississippi river. Monticello precinct, bounded on the north by the Mississippi river, east by a line running due south from the northwest corner of L. Dimmie's claim to the south line of the county, south by the south line of the county, and west by Big Bend precinct. Pleasant Grove precinct, bounded on the north by the Mississippi river, east and south by Crow river, and west by Monticello precinct.

These somewhat imperfect descriptions were due to the yet undeveloped region included, the lands remaining unsurveyed until July and August of that year.

The dwelling house of Selah Markham was designated as the place for holding elections in Big Bend precinct, and Selah Markham, John C. Dow, and John Oakes, appointed judges of election. John C. Dow and Archie Downie were appointed





Justices of the Peace, and Oscar Dow and John Lowell, Constables.

In Monticello preeinct the place designated was the dwelling house of William Creighton. Joseph Brown, William M. Vanness, and Samuel M. McManus were appointed judges of elections; Samuel McManus and George M. Bertram, Justices of the Peace, and Newell Honllet and J. B. Rich, Constables.

In Pleasant Grove Preeinct the dwelling house of John McDonald was designated, and Ezra Tubbs, Charles Lambert, and Caleb Chase appointed Judges of Election; John McDonald and Ezra Tubbs were appointed Justices of the Peace; and William Carsley and Otis T. True, Constables.

Archie Downie, Josiah B. Locke, and D. L. Ingersoll were appointed Assessors.

Each preeinct constituted a school district, with officers or agents, as follows: No. 1, Pleasant Grove Preeinct, Dudley P. Chase; No. 2, Monticello, Nathan Fletcher; No. 3, Big Bend, Selah Markham.

Rockford and Buffalo Preeincts were organized later, in 1857.

The next meeting of the board was at Monticello, July 2d, 1855, at which petitions were received for a county road from Waterville, at the mouth of Crow river, to Monticello, and from Monticello to El Dorado City, at the mouth of Clearwater river. Both petitions were granted, and the necessary surveys ordered. Another road was asked, from John McDonald's Landing across the county to the Crow river, near the Bigelow place, which was also ordered surveyed.

A petition was also received from J. W. Hanaford and others, asking the formation of a new school district. The following appointments were then made: J. S. Mason, Judge of Election in Monticello preeinct, vice Samuel M. McManus, removed from the county; Joseph C. Walker, Sheriff, vice Herbert McCrory, resigned; David McPherson, Judge of Election in Pleasant Grove preeinct, vice Ezra Tubbs, who failed to qualify; and R. Brasie, Treasurer, vice James C. Beckman, resigned.

During this session the assessment roll was completed, and a tax of eleven mills to the dollar levied on all taxable property. The assessed valuation, as shown by the completed and corrected roll, was \$33,863, on which a tax of \$575.67 was levied, \$84.66 of which was for school purposes. The rolls were placed in the hands of Sheriff Walker for collection. Grand and petit jury lists

were also selected, after which the board adjourned. Following is the first Grand Jury list:

Josiah B. Locke,	C. L. Boyd,
Frederick Barker,	J. W. Veerhiss,
E. W. Merrill,	George M. Bertram,
Joseph Brooks,	David Worthing,
Samuel Wilder,	B. F. Bursley,
Frederick Emery,	William McDonald,
Row Brasie,	John E. Dow,
Nathan Fletcher,	John Oakes,
Abraham Wood,	Selah Markham,
Joseph Brown,	E. Franklin Palmer,
J. C. Beckman,	William Cary,
Caleb Chase,	A. Bartlett,
James Phillips,	William Mann,
Samuel Carrington,	A. J. Hnbbard,
S. W. Lambert,	H. Bradley,
Beriah T. Record,	L. S. Carpenter,
Ezra Tubbs,	William Barnard,
G. Barnes,	D. B. Sutton,
D. L. Ingersoll,	Henry Chambers.

The next meeting of the board was held September 3d, at which time a petition was received for a road running from Monticello south to Pelican Lake, then called Big Lake.

Bills amounting to \$126.52 were audited and allowed, \$31.37 of which was for books and stationery.

The taxes collected in 1855, for county and school purposes, amounted to \$293.52.

The Commissioners of 1856 were: Dudley P. Chase, H. W. McCrory, and Selah Markham, the first of whom was elected Chairman. Their first meeting was held January 7th, 1856. At a subsequent meeting in June, \$1,053.84 was levied for county taxes, \$126.71 for Territorial, and \$319.28 for school purposes. The fact that about five-eighths of this amount was assessed to Monticello will serve to show the relative advancement in the preeincts at that date, a fact largely attributable to the fertile prairie extending back from the river, which first lured the early settlers to the selection and improvement of future homes.

GRASSHOPPERS.—The 19th of August, 1856, is a date not likely to be forgotten by the early settlers in this county, for on that day arrived the advance guard of that all-devouring army of winged gourmauds, whose ravages spread terror and panic among the inhabitants and well nigh depopulated the young settlements. Rye and Rio Grand wheat escaped with little injury, the former from its advanced state, and the latter from the protection afforded by its bearded heads, as well as its almost completed maturity. The hope of relief occasioned by their sudden disap-



pearance in the fall, was blighted by their appearance in largely increased numbers the following spring, and several families, overcome with fear and discouragement, gathered their personal effects together, and took their final departure. Their retreat proved unwise and premature, for early in June the grasshoppers moved southward, having done immense damage it is true, but still leaving about half an average crop. With their exit, fear soon gave place to confidence, and an era of hopeful prosperity dawned upon the community. In 1876-77 the grasshoppers again appeared, and though, in the aggregate, the damage was greater the communities experienced less suffering than before.

The years 1856-57 are also well remembered by the mania then manifest in the promiscuous location of town-sites. Hitherto the principal explorations and settlements had been confined to the northern part of the county; but now it reached to portions more remote from the Mississippi, which, being the route pursued in reaching the county, had governed its previous settlements. These town-sites have each its local history, and those of importance will receive due mention in the town histories to which they belong.

**POLITICAL CHANGES.**—Passing the commonplace events of the intervening time, we find the County Commissioners chosen under the Territorial organization, in session at Monticello on the 5th day of April, 1858. The board consisted of Dudley P. Chase, H. W. McCrory, and Joel Florida, the latter elected chairman. This was their last meeting. Minnesota had taken her place among the States, and in accordance with a legislative enactment, the board closed its official labors by the establishment of the following towns:

Albion—Township 120, ranges 27 and 28.

Buffalo—South half of township 120, range 26, and township 120, range 25, and sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, in township 119, range 25.

Clearwater—Townships 122 and 123, range 27, and township 121, ranges 27 and 28.

Frankfort—Township 120, ranges 23 and 24.

Franklin—Township 118, range 25.

Monticello—West half of township 121, range 24, and townships 121 and 122, range 25.

Middleville—Township 118, ranges 27 and 28, and township 119, ranges 27 and 28.

Maple Lake—South half of township 121, range 26, and north half of township 120, range 26.

Otsego—Township 121, range 23, and east half of township 121, range 24.

Rockford—Township 119, range 24, and all of of township 119, range 25, except that portion mentioned in Buffalo.

Silver Creek—Township 122, range 26, and north half of township 121, range 26.

Woodland—Townships 118 and 119, range 26.

Under the new organization the Chairman of each board constituted the board of County Commissioners. The new board held its first meeting at Monticello, on the 14th of September, 1858, with the following representation: Albion, Robert S. Holmes; Buffalo, Jackson Taylor; Clearwater, J. D. Wheelock; Frankfort, J. M. McAlpine; Franklin, C. A. Wright; Monticello, H. H. Helm; Middleville, J. L. King; Otsego, Thomas Ham; Rockford, S. R. Workman; Silver Creek, John O. Haven.

The towns of Maple Lake and Woodland were not represented, having failed to elect officers at the required time. The board elected John O. Haven, Chairman, and C. B. Jordan, Clerk.

An application for license to sell spirituous liquors was received from S. H. Hotchkiss, and rejected, after a lengthy discussion. This was the first application made in Wright county.

**OTHER SETTLEMENTS.**—By the close of the year 1857, settlements had sprung up in the central, southern, and eastern portions of the county, but during the general depression of business following the financial crash of 1857, many of the early settlers were driven to the necessity of abandoning their claims, and seeking more favored localities, where labor offered a reward commensurate with their wants.

In 1859, the lands came into market, and from inability to pay the usual Government price, many claimants were obliged to quit their partially developed homes, and seek locations elsewhere. With the meager opportunities for lucrative employment outside, and the difficulty attending the opening of a farm in the dense woodlands, it is not strange that many found it impossible to maintain their families while as yet their scanty clearings furnished so little with which to keep the wolf from the door. And so they departed, and were succeeded by others more fortunate, who reaped whatever of reward their toils produced.

**THE WRIGHT COUNTY WAR.**—The tragic events to which the foregoing title have been erroneously applied, are alluded to on page 130, but demand





additional mention here. The scene of the tragedy was in the present town of Rockford, and both the murderer and his victim among the first officers of that town.

Henry A. Wallace, an unmarried man, was a native of New Hampshire, and came here in 1857. He took a claim on section two, township one hundred and nineteen, range twenty-five. His age was something less than thirty years. He was genial, well educated, and reputed wealthy. By the spring of 1858, he had several acres cleared, and had built a substantial log house.

Oscar F. Jackson, who came about the same time, from Pennsylvania, located on section three, between one and two miles from the residence of Mr. Wallace, built a small log house, and began a clearing. He was married, but had no children. Like most of the settlers of that period, he was a man of limited means, and often worked for Mr. Wallace and other neighbors to obtain money for incidental expenses. About the first of August, Wallace and Jackson began haying together, on a meadow, on and near the east line of the former's claim. On the eighth of September a rumor spread through the settlement that Wallace was missing. A suspicion arose that all was not right, and with the promptness common to frontier life, a search was speedily instituted. The house and immediate premises were searched in vain, then the party repaired to the hay meadow, where the nauseous stench emanating from a small clump of willows, guided them to the spot where lay the body of their missing companion, now in an advanced state of putrefaction, and bearing evidence of death from a blow with some blunt instrument upon the back of the head; after which the body had been taken to this place of imperfect concealment. The corpse was removed to a point not far distant, and there given a decent interment. Suspicion rested upon Oscar F. Jackson, why, it is unnecessary here to state, nor is it essential that these pages be encumbered with the manifold details following the discovery. Suffice it to say that Jackson was arrested upon a complaint by G. D. George, before Justice of the Peace C. W. Jenks, and after a preliminary examination, committed to await the action of the Grand Jury at the next term of the district court, which was held at Monticello, in March, 1859. The Grand Jury found a bill of indictment against Jackson for murder in the first degree. The trial commenced on the 29th of March, the case went to the jury in the afternoon

of April 2d, and late the following morning an agreement was effected; when, to the surprise of most of those in attendance, the verdict rendered was, "Not Guilty," and the prisoner was discharged. He left the county at once, going to Stillwater, but unwisely returned during the latter part of the month, when he was arrested upon a charge of larceny, and while in the custody of Sheriff G. M. Bertram, was taken charge of by an armed body of enraged citizens, and hung to a beam projecting from the upper part of the late residence of Mr. Wallace. Relatives removed the body to Stillwater for burial, and the family quit the county.

Jackson protested innocence to the last, but his extravagant use of money after the murder, and that on an eastern bank only introduced here by Wallace, together with other peculiar circumstances, gave ample ground for suspicion that he was the guilty party, an opinion fully justified by the events of later years. A gold watch, owned by Wallace, was found about four years ago, on the former claim of Jackson, now the farm of A. Roloff. The cases were in a perfect state of preservation, but the works were, of course, destroyed. Still later, in May, 1881, the rifle formerly owned by Wallace, was found on the farm now owned by Hon. Nathan Warner a short distance south of the Roloff farm. The muzzle had been carefully plugged, and though the stock was much decayed, and the outer surface of the barrel somewhat damaged, it was re-stocked and is now owned by Owen Davis, of Rockford, who considers it an excellent firearm.

The news of Jackson's tragic death, after his acquittal, spread rapidly and caused the greatest excitement, both press and populace clamoring for the maintenance of law and order, and the arrest and punishment of the "lynchers," or "mob." Accordingly, on the 2d of May, 1859, a proclamation was issued by Gov. H. H. Sibley, offering a reward of five hundred dollars for the arrest and conviction of the participants in the summary execution of Jackson.

On the 26th day of July following, during a large public gathering at Minnehaha Falls, Mr. A. W. Moore was identified by one of Mrs. Jackson's brothers as a member of the party who effected Jackson's death, a fact he at once reported to Mrs. Jackson, then at St. Paul, and on her complaint before the proper authorities, Moore was arrested and sent to Monticello, where he was placed in the custody of the sheriff of Wright county, to



await examination on the day following. News of the arrest had reached Rockford and Buffalo, and a large number of citizens, who had also participated in the hanging, fearing that Moore's timidity might cause their exposure by a forced confession, met, arranged various disguises, and at night visited Monticello, and quietly effected Moore's release. Attorney General Berry, who had, with the prosecuting witnesses, repaired to Monticello in behalf of the State, finding the prisoner gone, returned to St. Paul, and reported the case to Governor Sibley, who at once issued the following:—

PROCLAMATION.

*By the Governor of the State of Minnesota:*

For the first time in the history of the State it has become the stern and imperative duty of the executive of the State to employ a military force to suppress a combination against the laws in one of the counties in the State. Twice has an armed mob in Wright county outraged public sentiment, first by the unlawful hanging of Oscar F. Jackson after he had an impartial trial and had been acquitted by a jury of that county, and subsequently on the 3d inst., by rescuing an alleged participant in that crime from the civil authorities. To assert the majesty of the law and to subdue the spirit of rufianism which has manifested itself by overt acts, prompt measures will be taken.

I, Henry H. Sibley, Governor of the State of Minnesota, in view of the fact that the civil officers of Wright county are perfectly powerless to enforce and execute the laws, do hereby declare the said county of Wright in a state of insurrection, and I enjoin upon all the good citizens of that and adjoining counties, that they lend their aid to suppress violence and disorder, and solemnly warn the actors in these outrages in Wright county, that any further attempts on their part to obstruct or resist the course of public justice will bring inevitable ruin on their own heads, and may be desolation and misery on their families.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State to be affixed this fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, and of the State the second.

By the Governor                      HENRY H. SIBLEY.  
FRANCIS BAASSEN,  
Secretary of State.

[SEAL.]

On the same day, August 5th, the Pioneer Guards, numbering forty-two, under command of Capt. Western, commenced their journey to Monticello, armed and uniformed in full military fashion. They were provided with large army wagons, and thus saved the fatigue of the march. The next day the Stillwater Guards, numbering forty-five

men, under Capt. Loomis, with similar provisions for travel and battle, followed the route of the Pioneer Guards, being in turn followed by the City Guards, of St. Paul, forty in number, under Capt. O'Gorman. Three additional companies of Infantry, and one of Cavalry, were also ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice. A Police force of thirty-five men were also sent out under Chief of Police Corsley, by way of Rockford. They bivouaced one night near the village, but discovered no signs of riot and rebellion, and pushed on through Buffalo, to Monticello, where several arrests were made without the military aid, the prisoners left with the civil authorities, and on the 11th of August, the veterans returned to their friends without bloodshed or the loss of one of their number. Three persons were held to answer to the complaint at the October term of Court: A. W. Moore, H. S. Angell, and J. E. Jenks. Bail was given, to the amount of five hundred dollars each, and the prisoners released from custody. This was in point of fact the closing scene, as nothing followed at the October term of Court other than that indicated by the following order issued by the Court under date of October 4th, 1859:

"Ordered by the Court, that Aymer W. Moore, H. S. Angell, and J. E. Jenks, be discharged from their recognizance, for the said Aymer W. Moore, H. S. Angell, and J. E. Jenks having appeared before the Grand Jury at the October term of the Court of the Fourth Judicial District at Monticello, Wright county, Minnesota, 1859, and they having appeared before said Grand Jury during the entire sitting of said Grand Jury and until said Court was adjourned.

Now, therefore, the said Aymer W. Moore, H. S. Angell, and J. E. Jenks are discharged according to law and their recognizances are hereby released."

And so the drama ended; the curtain fell; and the so-called "Wright county war" was a thing of the past. Its effects, however, long remained in the enormous expense incurred, which, with other criminal cases of less magnitude, created an indebtedness almost resulting in bankruptcy, and depreciating county orders to less than thirty-five cents on the dollar.

THE GUNSENG TRADE.—The sudden and extraordinary demand for this article, with which the woods abounded, marks an important era in the annals of Wright county, and will exist in his-





tory as one of the land-marks of the past. Many a prosperous citizen of to-day owes his present estate and happy home to this lucrative traffic which transformed a destitute and half-beggared region into one of comparative wealth. In almost every town a purchasing agent was employed, and cash was promptly paid for every pound of ginseng root brought in. Whole families would go into the woods, and work for days gathering this staple commodity, to the utter abandonment of all other work.

In some instances this effected a marked hindrance in the matter of improving and developing farms; but in the aggregate, the effect was quite the reverse; as many were wholly without means, and must otherwise have abandoned their claims altogether. In later years the trade dwindled to meager proportions; but the crisis was passed, agriculture had advanced, and its necessity had ceased. Its mission was fulfilled—the settlements were saved.

**THE OLD JAIL.**—On the 15th of July, 1859, the County Commissioners decided upon the erection of a jail, at Monticello, at a cost not exceeding \$1,500—to be paid in county bonds bearing interest at the rate of twelve per cent. On the 15th of September following, the board voted to issue the bonds, placing them in the hands of the County Auditor, except three hundred dollars advance payment to the contractor. The building was of hewed tamarac logs, clap-boarded outside and lathed and plastered inside. It was furnished with six cells, situated on either side of a hall running through the center. The size of the jail was about 20x24, and was built on land deeded for that purpose by Smith and Brown so long as used for county purposes. When the building was completed it had cost the county \$2,500, instead of the sum before named, and when, in later years, the county seat was removed to Buffalo, the land reverted to the original owners, and with it the old jail, in which few prisoners had ever been confined. It is still standing on the old ground, a little southwest of the village Academy, in Monticello, a weather-beaten hulk, soon to be removed to give place for the future depot of the new railroad.

**WAR MATTERS.**—With the first call to arms, at the beginning of the late civil war, about twenty volunteers responded from different portions of the county, and during the next year many enlisted in the Regiments then forming, owing to which, several towns were exempt from the early

drafts. But in 1862, when, following close upon the battle before Richmond, and McClellan's memorable retreat, there came a call for six hundred thousand additional troops, Wright county was prompt to respond, and on the 12th of August, 1862, at a mass meeting held at the Academy building in Monticello, at which prominent citizens were present from each town, it was resolved that the county should offer a bounty of twenty-five dollars each to volunteers, and thus avoid the possible necessity of a draft. Accordingly, at a special meeting of the county board held on the day last mentioned, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, That we, according to resolutions passed by the citizens of Wright county in convention assembled this day at Monticello, issue orders bearing legal interest, for the sum of twenty-five dollars each, to the supervisors of each town in the county, equal to the number of Wright county volunteers presented by each town, and who shall not have received any bounty from any other county or town; and provided, that this resolution shall not apply to any person who has enlisted in the service of the United States previous to August 1, 1862."

ISAAC HAGER, Chairman,

J. W. MULVEY, County Auditor.

Without the loss of even a day, the organization of a company began, which, two days later, August 14th, reported at Fort Snelling, where they encountered their first foe in the wretched quality of the rations furnished. However, they survived, passed the required medical examination, were duly sworn in, and the same day elected their company officers. This was Wright county's first military organization, and by assignment became Company E, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Following is the roster and muster roll of that date:

Captain—Edward Hartley, Monticello.

First Lieutenant—Micha Croswell, Monticello.

Second Lieutenant.—Harvey S. Brookins, Silver Creek.

First Sergeant—Thomas Tollington, Clearwater.

SERGEANTS.

Edward Woodworth, Clearwater.

James F. Bradley, Minneapolis.

John B. Parvin, Monticello.

Albert F. Barker, Monticello.

CORPORALS.

Asel E. Houlett, Silver Creek.

Charles E. Post, Monticello.

William H. Lord, Monticello.

Henry W. Fuller, Orono.

Charles L. Smith, Monticello.

Emerson T. Woodward, Richfield.

William H. Houlton, Monticello.

George W. Carpenter, Silver Creek.



## NAMES OF PRIVATES.

William D. Lane, Musician, Minneapolis.  
 Charles W. Merrill, Musician, Monticello.  
 Thomas Anderson, Wagoner, Monticello.  
 John Albright, Monticello.  
 James Ambler, Buffalo.  
 Christopher I. Bailey, Monticello.  
 William F. Bagley, St. Anthony.  
 Michael Batterburg, Maple Lake.  
 Andrew H. Bertram, Monticello.  
 John J. Boyd, Monticello.  
 Edward P. Bradbury, Clearwater.  
 Henry S. Braughton, Clearwater.  
 Milton B. Brown, Monticello.  
 Alonzo Bryant, Monticello.  
 George T. Campbell, Lynden.  
 Lewis L. Chaffin, Monticello.  
 Franklin W. Clifford, Clearwater.  
 Dexter E. Collins, Silver Creek.  
 Henry R. Crawford, Monticello.  
 William Dallas, Lynden.  
 John W. Day, Orono.  
 Daniel Desmond, Monticello.  
 Timothy Desmond, Monticello.  
 Thomas I. Dill, Big Lake.  
 Joseph Duprey, Albion.  
 William Eberman, Clearwater.  
 Charles G. Ellis, Clearwater.  
 Albert Erath, Buffalo.  
 Herman Erath, Buffalo.  
 Albert C. Fairbrother, Monticello.  
 John H. Feleh, Elk River.  
 Nicholas Flynn, Buffalo.  
 Joseph I. Fisher, Monticello.  
 Charles H. Gibbs, Clearwater.  
 Louis Goyette, Buffalo.  
 John Hartley, Monticello.  
 Henry C. Helm, Monticello.  
 Randolph Holding, Clearwater.  
 Debering Holgate, Elk River.  
 Daniel W. Kreidler, Rockford.  
 George W. Kreidler, Rockford.  
 Samuel G. Kreidler, Rockford.  
 David L. Kingsbury, Monticello.  
 Joseph N. Locke, Silver Creek.  
 Martin Lord, Monticello.  
 John Louisiana, Rockford.  
 John W. Lyons, Clearwater.  
 Homer Markham, Clearwater.  
 William McPherson, Buffalo.  
 Henry A. Mitchell, Monticello.  
 Mathew Murphy, Clearwater.  
 Alphonzo Nickerson, Monticello.  
 Ellett P. Parcher, Lynden.  
 Frank M. Parcher, Lynden.  
 Joseph Perkins, Monticello.  
 Amid E. Philbrook, Monticello.  
 John D. Ponsford, Clearwater.  
 Elisha C. Sabin, Silver Creek.  
 John Swain, Monticello.  
 Cramer Swartout, Woodland.  
 George Tourtellotte, Orono.  
 Joseph Vadner, Jr., Maple Lake.

Charles H. Vorse, Lynden.  
 Edson D. Washburne, Otsego.  
 Elbridge F. Washburne, Otsego.  
 George R. L. Wedgewood, Monticello.  
 Samuel Wilder, Monticello.

A brief outline of this company's history is due as a matter of general interest. The facts here given are gathered from the address of Hon. Wm. Houlton, at Monticello, December 7th, 1879. Following close upon the dates mentioned, came the Sioux massacre, and the general panic caused by flying and exaggerated rumors, and Company E, was sent to Monticello to afford necessary protection to that locality. They remained but a short time, then returned to Fort Snelling, where they were mustered in, armed with Austrian rifles, and in November, ordered to Fort Ripley, where they went into winter quarters. The next spring they were ordered to Paynesville, Stearns county, where they remained nearly a year, in the meantime sending out small scouting parties in various directions. In the summer of 1863, a party under Sergeant John B. Parvin (now a resident of Monticello) were scouting in Wright county, and while stopping at the house of Joseph Locke, in Silver Creek, on the evening of August 1st, a distressing circumstance occurred, which cost the life of one of their number, and cast a gloom over the whole company. Bears were reported numerous in that section, and for the purpose of perpetrating a joke upon a comrade, one of the party, Christopher I. Bailey, secreted himself in the bushes, and by imitating the growl of a bear, and moving slowly on his hands and feet, purposed scaring A. H. Bertram, a comrade who was about to pass that way on his way to a spring of water near by. He was successful in deceiving Bertram, but alas! for that success. A quick retreat to the house, and as quick a return with his musket, a hasty but too fatal aim in the gathering shadows, a flash, a report ringing out on the still night air, and a comrade—not a wild beast—lay dead at his feet. The event is still referred to with deepest regret on the part of all, and by none so much as the unfortunate, though unintentional cause of the tragedy.

In the spring of 1864, the company was mounted, and accompanied Gen. Sully on his march across the plains westward, crossing the Missouri river at Fort Rice, about the 4th of July. Two weeks later, they struck west, and when one hundred and twenty-five miles out, encountered a party of Sioux with whom they had an engagement, putting





them to rout, and destroying their village. On the 12th of August, after subsisting for several days upon half rations, they arrived at the Yellow Stone, where steamboats laden with rations awaited them. Returning soon to Fort Rice, thence to Fort Sapping, which they reached late in October, they turned over their cavalry outfit, and on the 4th of the month following, started South.

The exposure and suffering incident to limited facilities for transporting troops, were borne in a true soldierly manner, which may not always indicate cheerful submission. Be this as it may, they arrived not long after at Nashville, Tenn., thence to Murfreesboro', and later, to Fort Rosen-cranz. On the 7th of December, they joined in the march against Hood's army, and participated in the battle of the Cedars, near Murfreesboro', where they lost two killed and three wounded. After the defeat of Hood, they were ordered to North Carolina, arriving at Wilmington a few days after the surrender of Fort Fisher. After several temporary encampments they were stationed at Charlotte, from whence they were ordered home about the middle of July, 1865. They reached St. Paul the last of the month, and after a reception and public dinner at the Capitol, the Regiment disbanded. Company E returned to Monticello, where they were warmly welcomed, and from which place they separated, each following his chosen occupation. But the old memories are not suffered to grow dim, nor the friendships then formed to be forgotten, for on each succeeding year they meet on the 7th of December to revive old memories, perpetuate old friendships, and commemorate their first battle in the South—the battle of the Cedars in the far-off state of Tennessee.

**THE INDIAN SCARE.** Following the hurried organization of Company E, there came another call not for men to defend their country, but their homes and families. Rumors of outrage, rapine and murder, at Acton, at Yellow Medicine, and elsewhere, by the treacherous and merciless Sioux, startled the hitherto peaceful communities, and spread through the settlements the wildest panic and alarm. As though the simple truth were not enough, the most exaggerated rumors were wildly circulated, and as readily believed. Buffalo, Waverly, and the entire country west, were reported as one great scene of blood, and carnage, and ruin. From every cabin in the Big Woods, the frightened settlers came pouring in, fleeing in pitiful alarm from an imaginary ready foe, rush-

ing like an Alpine torrent, on and still on, they scarce knew whither. At Monticello in the north, and Rockford in the south, strenuous efforts were made to arrest this precipitate flight, and many were, at least temporarily detained. Stockades were hastily constructed, and in a short time, comparative quiet restored. Military organization was effected, guards and patrols maintained, and during the fall and winter, many settlers ventured to return to their claims in the timber. The State lent aid by furnishing ammunition, and a large number of those bungling, unwieldy blunderbusses, the special detestation of every soldier—Belgium muskets.

Other settlers came in the following spring, and an occasional victim of the terror and flight of the former season returned. Confidence was again restored, the stockades abandoned, and the varied industries again claimed the attention of the settlers. Peace and prosperity reigned, and the terror of the previous season had become a subject for jest, and its memories were as of some mere incubus. But this was doomed to a sudden and cruel change, for on the last day of June, when nature had donned her livery of green, and all things invited to happiness, there came a cry of terror that would not be silenced, and the events of the past season were repeated with tenfold intensity. If the fright of 1862 was a panic, that of 1863 was a reign of terror, and marks a melancholy era in the history of this and other counties; in this, because within its borders a family classed among its earliest settlers and pioneers, were well nigh swept away before the pitiless rage of the murderous Sioux. The excitement following the news of this outrage caused another exodus. Many of the families never returned, while of those who, a few weeks later ventured back, many found only ruined crops and desolate homes.

**THE DUSTIN MASSACRE.**—The particulars of this pitiless slaughter, concerning which many erroneous statements have been published, are gathered with much care from surviving members of the family, and neighbors who assisted in the search for, and burial of the victims.

In the spring of 1857, Mrs. Jeannette Dustin and family came here from New York, and took a claim on section twenty-four, in the present town of Marysville, now known as the Bland farm. About two years later they sold this claim to Mr. Beattie, and located on what is known as the Quinn



farm, not far from Montrose, and later, to a claim on Mooers Prairie, now Stockholm, four or five miles from the village of Cokato. Mrs. Dustin was the widow of Moses Dustin, who died about three years before her coming to Minnesota. The children were: Amos, Nathan, Timothy, Dallas, Arabella, and an elder daughter, the wife of A. D. Kingsley, an early settler at Waverly Mills, and now of French Lake.

In June, 1863, Mrs. Dustin visited her daughter, Mrs. Kingsley, then at Waverly Mills, and remained nursing her during an illness of two weeks or more. On the 29th of June, she started for home, with her son Amos, his wife and three children, who were about to settle near the others at Mooers Prairie. They went with an ox-team and common lumber wagon, and late in the afternoon, when near Smith Lake, were attacked by a party of Indians who killed Mrs. Jeannette Dustin, Amos, and his son Robert, in the wagon in which all were riding at time of the attack. Mrs. Amos Dustin, formerly Miss Kate Miller, was shot in the back with an arrow, which passed through her body, protruding from her breast. She fell forward and was left for dead. Alma, her daughter, then a child of about seven years, was hidden in the wagon partially beneath the dead body of her father, and escaped notice. The youngest son, Albert, then a child some three years of age, was taken from the wagon and left upon the ground unharmed. Why he was thus left is only accounted for by the settlers of that time, upon the hypothesis that the starvation or destruction by wild beasts to which he was thus exposed, offered the most cruel torture with which to close their work of blood. After mutilating the bodies of the murdered, and plundering the wagon, the Indians departed, leaving the dead and dying to their fate. Mrs. Dustin soon rallied, and summoning all her strength, started with her two terror-stricken children to seek the shelter of some friendly cabin. Poor, suffering mother! Wounded, bleeding, and faint—clinging to her orphaned babes, though racked with cruel pain, and with the fatal arrow yet piercing her flesh, what, save the intensity of a mother's love, could sustain her in this terrible hour of fear, and pain, and horror! But even this fervor could not long withstand the fatal drain, and with failing sight and sense, she wandered from the pathway, and there, in the dim old forest, shrouded by the murky shadows of night, the weary, suffering mother lay down to die.

At the time of the attack, the team being frightened, had left the road, broken loose from the wagon, and started back, stopping at the residence of Mr. A. E. Cochran, whose suspicions were aroused, and who, not hearing from the family, proceeded next morning to the mills, summoned Mr. A. D. Kingsley, Henry Lammers, and others, and all returned to Mr. Cochran's, from whence they proceeded westward along the route taken by the family the day previous. A little to the west of Howard lake, and not far from the margin of its waters, a dog belonging to the family was discovered, and soon after, the two children, who were wandering about in search of water. Near by, in a clump of willows, lay the suffering mother, still conscious, and in the full possession of her mental faculties. From her they learned the fate of the others, and messengers were dispatched to Watertown and Rockford to notify the settlers, and also claim their assistance.

The murdered victims were removed to the old Waverly mills and buried in a beautiful grove on the right bank of the stream forming the outlet to Little Waverly lake, near the present residence of C. W. Bonniwell. Mrs. Dustin was taken to the residence of Mr. Cochran and given every possible attention, but to little purpose. The fatal arrow had done its work. She lived to tell the story of the bloody tragedy, but the day after being found, death, more merciful than her murderers, kindly ended her sufferings. She was buried with the others, and with them lie also the remains of Mrs. Kingsley, her four children, and Nathan Dustin, who died from the effects of exposure while scouting for Indians after the murder of his friends.

Mrs. Dustin recognized Little Crow, his son, and three others in the attacking party. Timothy, Dallas, and Arabella, who were at the home on Mooers Prairie, were not disturbed, but after the murder, removed to the settlement east, as did others in the vicinity. Dallas Dustin is now in Nebraska, Timothy, and Arabella, (now Mrs. C. Meyers) are living near Bonniwell's Mills, and the children of Amos, in Hennepin county, Alma in Minneapolis, and Albert in the town of Plymouth.

When Mr. C. W. Bonniwell purchased the mill property and farm at Waverly Mills, the plot where the Dustin family lie buried was reserved, and is still sacredly kept as a token of respect for the departed, and a sorrowful reminder of the terror and tragedy of the year 1863. The spot where the murder occurred, and where the bodies





were found, is on the eastern margin of Smith Lake, a little south of the steam mill; and the place where Mrs. Amos Dustin was found is just north of the railroad station at Howard Lake.

The excitement following the news of this massacre was intense, and it was long before the settlements again enjoyed their former prosperity and sense of safety.

**HARD TIMES.**—The settlements were slow in recovering the numerical loss sustained during the Indian troubles, and it was not until the dawn of our Nation's peace, and the return of her citizen soldiery, that material changes occurred. In the meantime most of the odd-numbered sections had fallen into the hands of the railroad company, through abandonment by former claimants. After the war, with the prospect of a railroad soon to be built through the county, these lands found ready sale to actual settlers, and with the homesteads taken during 1865-66, the census of Wright county was materially increased. As most of the late comers of 1866 were men of limited means, it was not strange that the spring of 1867 found many in destitute circumstances. Added to this embarrassment was the farther evil of an unusually wet spring, rendering early seeding impossible, and the roads, as yet unworked, nearly, and in many instances quite impassable. Wright county seems always to have been specially doomed to exaggerated rumors, and this was no exception. May was scarce ushered in before wild rumors of destitution were afloat, and the press of the State informed the reading public that families were starving; that many were subsisting upon elm bark. It was enough to have told the simple truth, for "hard times came knocking at the door" of many a cabin in that dreary season. The County Commissioners were appealed to for aid, and accordingly sent out a committee of investigation, to ascertain and report the actual condition of the settlements where suffering was reported. The investigation disclosed the fact that in several of the western towns, great destitution prevailed, and that prompt measures were necessary to prevent actual want and starvation.

The Commissioners found it no easy matter to effect the necessary relief, with an empty treasury, and no time to arrange for the issue of bonds. Although the county was out of debt, its bonds, in the event of an issue, were not likely to be eagerly sought after by outside parties, and there was no surplus wealth within its borders. Something,

however, must be done, and that, too, without delay. The only avenue of relief offered was the immediate issue of county orders, which was adopted, and a committee sent to St. Paul and Minneapolis to convert these into cash for the relief of the suffering. The banks, however, turned a deaf ear to the appeal of the committee, and utter failure seemed imminent. Just then Mr. W. B. Litchfield, prominent in railroad circles, hearing by a mere chance, of the vain attempts on the part of the committee to obtain aid, volunteered the loan of the necessary amount, and thus secured to the committee the means of assistance. For this humane act Mr. Litchfield will ever be held in kindly remembrance. On the 18th of May, at a special meeting of the County Commissioners it was voted: "That a county bond be issued to W. B. Litchfield of St. Paul, to the amount of five hundred dollars payable one year after date, bearing interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum. The same being for money to be applied towards relieving the destitute persons in Wright county."

Signed

T. C. SHAPLEIGH,

Chairman Board of Commissioners.

Attest: HENRY KREIS, Auditor.

Pending the foregoing transaction, the Governor had, upon appeal to him by some of the citizens, sent out eighteen sacks of flour, and other articles of food, to meet the immediate requirements of the distressed. But the difficulties of the County Commissioners did not end with the advance of money by Mr. Litchfield. Flour in St. Paul, was held at twelve dollars per barrel, and it was with great difficulty that a team was at last procured to take a load to Rockford, the charge for transportation being two dollars per barrel. This seemingly extravagant price, was, after all, a questionable speculation on the part of the carrier. Rockford was made the distributing point, it being impossible to proceed farther by team, but the settlers were glad of the provisions furnished, even though forced to carry them in some cases from fifteen to twenty miles upon their shoulders—a method facetiously termed "soul-carrying." Provisions, seed, etc., were also distributed from Monticello, beside which a few visited the cities, and secured additional aid. Of the entire amount thus distributed, the county sustained an expense of about one thousand dollars. That some of this, as well as the aid obtained from the cities, fell into undeserved hands is no matter of wonder, nor is it any exception to the general his-



tory of such cases. The object was attained, notwithstanding this, the immediate wants were met, and the settlers enabled to push forward in developing their farms and homes.

**COUNTY SEAT REMOVED.**—With the now more general distribution of settlers throughout the county, the question of removing the county seat from Monticello to some more central point was vigorously agitated, and in the Legislature of 1867, a bill was passed submitting the matter to a vote of the people at the fall election of that year. As a result of this measure, the location was fixed at Buffalo. In accordance with a previous agreement, the citizens of Buffalo erected a building for court-room and offices, which was furnished the county free of rent for a term of five years. This building was 24x36 feet, and two stories high. It is now owned by C. E. Oakley, the upper room being known as Oakley's Hall, and used for society and public meetings. A brick vault was also built adjoining the old court-house on the east, during the construction of which, a partial collapse gave Mr. Gardner, the builder, a temporary burial, from which, however, he was resurrected with slight injuries.

Viewing the old court-house to-day, it seems but a meager provision for the then existing needs of the county, but it was a marked improvement upon the previous condition of affairs.

In Monticello no common building existed; a part of the officers were furnished with small detached quarters, while others were wholly without provision. The convenience, therefore, of even this small building was duly appreciated. In 1873, the five year's lease expired, and the building was purchased by the county, for one thousand dollars. In the legislature of this year, an act was passed submitting to the people at the spring elections, the matter of voting bonds for the construction of a new county building. The measure was defeated, and the matter rested until the Legislature of 1875, when an act was passed authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to issue the necessary bonds without submitting the matter to a vote of the people.

Accordingly a committee was appointed, who, after examining several public buildings in different parts of the State, reported that a suitable and convenient building, with heavy brick walls and stone foundations, could be erected at a maximum cost of thirty-five thousand dollars. Plans and specifications were furnished by J. V. Daniels, and

bids solicited. The contract was awarded to Bisbee & Bardwell, of Minneapolis, for \$26,640. A portion of the stone used in the foundation was obtained near Buffalo Lake, the remainder being brought from Minneapolis; the brick were also obtained near by, thus lessening the otherwise heavy expense of building. The mason work was carried on under the supervision of "Uncle Joe" Nelson, an old man now over eighty years of age, and a universal favorite in this and other localities.

On the 1st of January, 1878, the new and elegant court-house was occupied by the county officers. The additional expenditure of some three thousand dollars in fencing, erecting out-buildings, and ornamenting the grounds, has added much to its original appearance. Viewed from the margin of the lake on the south, with its terraced grounds, graveled walks, and greenwood background, its imposing structure affords a perspective such as artists admire, and of which the citizens of Wright county are justly proud. Some little disappointment was experienced in the basement not being finished for jail purposes, but it was not stipulated in the contract, and has never been effected. It is divided, however, into suitable compartments, and only lacks the addition of patent cells to make it available and commodious. It has not yet been deemed advisable to assume the expense of its completion, and the further necessary expense of a turnkey. Prisoners are therefore taken either to St. Paul or Minneapolis for safe keeping during their terms of confinement.

**SCHOOLS.**—That the first settlers of Wright county were alive to the importance of fostering an educational interest, is evident from their early efforts in that direction. The three voting Precincts, first established were each made a school district, and the formation of other districts were among the first sub-divisions following. Rude, though comfortable buildings were erected, and schools maintained, usually without taxation, voluntary contributions being the rule. The first notable impetus given, was the general act granting two sections in each township for school purposes, though in most cases little immediate aid was realized from this source. Yet, through all the varied fortunes of the pioneer and later settlements, this all-important element has been carefully nursed, until now, not a child within the borders of the county is without the means of a common school education. The village schools offer additional facilities, as will appear in the town

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histories following. From 1860, until the office of County Superintendent was established, each Commissioner district had its School Examiner; since then all have been under the supervision of the Superintendent, whose duties each year are becoming more arduous.

RAILROADS.—The necessity of better facilities for travel and transportation were among the early wants experienced in this region, and the future possibility of a line of railroad traversing this county was anxiously considered by the rapidly increasing population. Accordingly, any measure pointing to that end was joyfully received by the inhabitants, and when the "Five Million Loan Bill" was submitted to the people, in April, 1858, Wright county, in view of one or more anticipated lines through her territory, voted almost unanimously in its favor. Some of its warmest advocates, at that date, have since been among those who opposed the payment of the bonds. Of the land grants provided for by act of Congress, March 3d, 1857, a large amount of the public domain was secured by the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Northwestern Railroad Company, afterwards changed by reorganization, to the First Division of the St. Paul and Pacific, and later, by similar measures, to its present name—St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company. By the line located through the southern part of this county, and the one just avoiding its northern border, a large acreage was secured within the county limits, the grant embracing the odd-numbered sections within a limit of twelve miles on either side of the lines. This, with the large amount embraced in the lands afterward taken under the homestead law, reduced the taxable area to a mere fraction, and in 1867, through some strange misinterpretation of the terms of the land grant, an effort was made to tax the railroad lands within the county limits, the same as ordinary non-resident lands. They were, therefore, placed on the assessment rolls, returned, and advertised for sale for non-payment of taxes; but the sale was prevented by an injunction served by the railroad company upon the County Auditor and Treasurer. Litigation followed, the case coming before the June term of the District Court, and resulting in a decision in favor of the Company. In this contest, H. R. Bigelow appeared for the Railroad, and Hon. H. L. Gordon for the county. The case was carried to the Supreme Court, by appeal, and the action of the lower tribunal confirmed.

It was, on the whole, a most unfortunate affair, the worst of which was not the immediate expense incurred in the suits. By returning a large assessment on real estate, a corresponding tax was required by the State, which, as it was never collected in the county, was never paid into the State Treasury, and the State Auditor's books still show a nominal indebtedness from which Wright county officials are not yet free from annoyance.

During the year 1866, the railroad now known as the Breckenridge Division of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba, was located through Wright county, and during the winter was cut out through the Big Woods. In October, 1868, the track was laid as far as Delano, and by July, the next year, was completed to Cokato, and soon after, beyond the county line west.

In the summer, or autumn of 1878, a survey was made through the northern part of the county by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, passing through the villages of Clearwater and Monticello. The people along the route were jubilant in anticipation of its early construction, but the project was abandoned, and their hopes unrealized. Thus matters remained until the winter of 1880-81, when another survey was undertaken in the interests of the Minneapolis and North Western Railway Company, following the general course of the former, and commonly called, Rosser survey. Other routes were also surveyed, including one through Buffalo. Propositions were submitted, aid extended from the towns of Monticello and Clearwater, and during the summer of 1881, the road graded as far as the latter village. Track laying began, from Minneapolis west, early in the season, with the view of reaching the western extremity of Wright county during the fall, which at time of this writing, seems likely to be effected. The St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company own the controlling interest in the line, and its construction is wholly under their management.

As the past and future development of Wright county bears so intimate a relation to the achievements of this company, it is deemed proper here to give a brief review of its inception and progress.

The land grant of Congress, approved March, 1857, for aid in the construction of railroads in Minnesota, was based upon a series of contemplated lines, radiating from St. Paul, one of which should run to Winona, one to Stillwater, and another to Minneapolis, branching at that point, with one line running to Big Stone Lake, on the western line of



the State; the other through Sauk Rapids, to St. Vincent, with a branch line from Sauk Rapids to Lake Superior. Of the lands thus granted, this company secured about 3,180,000 acres, of which, at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1881, there had been sold 1,185,837 acres along their several lines, the sales for the last year alone amounting to nearly 98,000 acres. The first efforts in construction, under the original corporation, were but feeble demonstrations. A partially completed grade marked a possible future line from St. Paul to St. Anthony, in 1857, and there the matter rested until 1862, when another effort resulted in trains running to St. Anthony. Edmund Rice was President of the first and second corporations, and in 1864, George L. Becker became President of the First Division of the St. Paul and Pacific Railway Company, the new corporation securing the land grants and franchises of the constructed portion from St. Paul to St. Anthony, and the uncompleted portion to Sauk Rapids; also from St. Anthony west to Big Stone Lake. The progress of the latter line has already been noted. The Sauk Rapids branch hardly kept pace with the other; reaching Anoka in January, 1864, Elk River, in October, the same year, Big Lake, April, 1866, East St. Cloud, September, 1866, and Sauk Rapids, September 30th, 1867. In June, 1879, through negotiations unnecessary here to name, the present organization was consummated, and has since enjoyed a marked degree of success. During the year ending June 30th, 1881, the company have built 211 miles of road, and now own and operate 816 miles, mostly within this State, the remainder in Dakota. On these lines they pay into the State treasury, in taxes, \$109,588.11.

The rolling stock in use at time of the June report of 1881, was: eighty-nine locomotives, seven sleeping cars, seventy-four passenger, mail, and baggage cars, fifty-two caboose and tool cars, and two thousand five hundred and fifty-six box, stock, flat, and gravel cars.

The gross earnings for the last fiscal year were \$3,652,851.91, to which is added rents of leased lines, interest and exchange, to the amount of \$52,600.22, leaving a balance over operating and other expenses, of \$732,466.10, exclusive of land sales. The same annual report shows the Company possessed of assets to the amount of \$37,536,583.95.

The general offices, shops, etc., are located at St. Paul, the former comprising elegant apartments at the corner of Fourth and Wabasha streets. The

official roster is as follows: Geo. Stephen, Pres.; R. B. Angus, Vice Pres.; Edward Sawyer, Sec. and Treas.; Jas. J. Hill, Gen'l Manager; Allen Mayvel, Asst. Gen'l Manager; C. C. Smith, Chief Engineer; and S. S. Breed, Auditor.

OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.—This society was organized in 1868, holding its first meeting January 7th, at the residence of W. V. B. Moore, at Monticello. It was decided that the membership be confined to residents of the county prior to January 1st, 1858. The first regular meeting of the society was called to meet at Buffalo on the 22d day of February, 1868, a constitution and by-laws then to be presented; for which purpose T. R. Briggs, J. E. Warren, and Geo. A. J. Overton were appointed a committee. The officers elected were: D. R. Farnham, Pres.; Geo. A. J. Overton, Sec.; and W. V. B. Moore, Treas. Each town was represented by a Vice President as follows:

Robert S. Holmes, Albion,  
A. Ackley, Buffalo,  
B. Ambler, Chatham,  
Charles Gordon, Corinna,  
T. C. Porter, Clearwater,  
Jacob Bingenheimer, Frankfort,  
J. P. Lyle, Franklin,  
A. D. Kingsley, Marysville,  
S. E. Adams, Monticello,  
A. McDonald, French Lake,  
J. L. King, Middleville,  
Sam. Allen, Mooers Prairie,  
W. G. McCrory, Maple Lake,  
John McDonald, Otsego,  
William Sleight, Rockford,  
J. S. Locke, Silver Creek,  
Edward Brewster, Victor,  
Ezra Stacy, Woodland.

Pursuant to call the meeting was held on the 22d of February, 1868, at the residence of Jackson Taylor, when the organization was perfected, a sumptuous repast and general good cheer following. Annual meetings have since been maintained, usually marked by a fair attendance, and the exercises common to such occasions. By a constitutional amendment effected at the annual meeting in 1880, the membership privilege was extended to residents prior to 1860. Time's restless hand has already defaced the original membership roll, and ere many years, the last of the charter members of the association will be among the things that were.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—To the citizens of Rockford belongs the credit of inaugurating agricultural societies in Wright county, the first of which was organized in that town in July, 1860.





and called the Crow River Agricultural Society. The first Fair was held at the village of Rockford in September, 1861. For a time its meetings were monthly, and came to be quite prominent gatherings. Its President was William Sleight, and its Secretary, D. R. Farnham. It was maintained for several years with varied degrees of success.

In January, 1870, the Wright County Agricultural Society was formed, with the following official roster: President, William Sleight; Vice President, J. B. Parvin; Secretary, J. M. Keeler; Treasurer, J. W. Hanaford; Executive Committee, John Knight, George Davis, Milton Bliss, and W. T. Rigby. The first fair was held at Monticello on the 21st, 22d, and 23d of September, 1870, and was well attended. Diplomas were awarded successful competitors and exhibitors, but no cash or other premiums; owing to an ill-stored treasury, the receipts but little more than covering the necessary expenditures. At the next annual fair, also held at Monticello, \$95.23 was furnished the Society by the State Auditor, under legislative provision, making, with other receipts, a total of \$414.10. This enabled the Society to offer moderate premiums, the effect of which was to increase the interest heretofore manifest by exhibitors. In 1874, the place of holding the fair was changed to Rockford, and in 1876 to Buffalo, where it remained till 1880, then was again removed to Rockford. Temporary and inexpensive buildings have been provided at the different towns mentioned, and the meetings have usually been successful. The officers, however, experience great difficulty and annoyance in the absence of permanent grounds and buildings, an evil that time and the future development of the county will, ere long, remove.

Despite wars, scourges, and myriad misfortunes, Wright county has kept pace with other portions of the State in general improvement and development, and with her natural advantages, excellent soil and timber, and above all, an industrious population, it is safe to predict that few counties will ultimately rival her in wealth and advancement. The days of hopeless toil, privation, and terror have passed; comfort smiles on every hand, and the future glows with promise of ultimate triumph and happiness.

## ALBION.

### CHAPTER CXVIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—DISAPPEARANCE OF HENRIETTA SPENCER—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Albion lies in the northwestern portion of the county, and embraces an area of about 23,040 acres, of which 4,190 are being cultivated. The surface was, originally, chiefly covered with timber, but a large portion has been removed for agricultural purposes. The soil is a deep dark loam with a clay subsoil, and the town has a large acreage of natural meadow land. There are a number of lakes, some of which are quite large, and all abound in fish of the varieties peculiar to the locality. The largest of these lakes are, Granite, Albion, William, Swartouts, and Henshaw lakes, the total water surface covering an area of about 2,500 acres.

The first actual settlers were Thomas G. and Robert S. Holmes, twin brothers, who settled on sections nine and ten, on the bank of Albion Lake, and still reside there. A. J. Phillips was in this township in 1855, and three years later, made a claim on section twenty, where he now lives. Charles Judson settled on section twenty-six in the fall of 1858, and is now a resident of the town. Thomas Dunham also came about the same time. In May, 1857, a party of well-to-do farmers came from New York, consisting of William Taylor, M. A. Taylor, G. L. Ingraham, W. R. Butterworth, and his son W. H. Butterworth. The latter was drowned while crossing the lake on the 5th of July of the same year, and was the first death in the town. His father was nearly distracted, and soon left the State never to return.

Albion was organized by the County Commissioners in April, 1858, and embraced, in addition to its own territory, that now contained in French Lake, and reduced to its present limits on the organization of the latter town. The first election was held on the 11th of May, and the following officers chosen: Supervisors, R. S. Holmes, Chairman, C. L. Ingraham, and W. R. Butterworth; Clerk, M. A. Taylor; and Justices of the Peace, T. G. Holmes, and W. R. Butterworth.

A townsite was surveyed and platted by the Holmes brothers soon after their arrival, but after the lapse of a quarter of a century, the site is



found to be worth more as farming land than for any other purpose.

The most remarkable event in the history of Albion is the disappearance, in the fall of 1879, of a little girl two and a half years old, a daughter of John F. Spencer, who resides on section twelve. Henrietta, or Etta, as she was familiarly called, in company with two older sisters, the eldest aged about seven years, was playing not more than five rods from their father, who was at work about twenty rods from the house. They were called by their mother, and Mr. Spencer saw the three start together for the house. When the two eldest came in, the mother enquired for Etta, and was answered that she was coming. As she did not come in a few minutes, Mrs. Spencer went to the door and not seeing the child, went to her husband in the field in search of her. In answer to the inquiry for Etta, her father replied that she had started for the house about five minutes ago. Search was at once begun, and a large party of men who were at work in the vicinity, turned out and explored every foot of territory for miles around, but to this day, not a trace of the child has been discovered. The little girl was not out of sight of her parents more than two or three minutes until she was missed, a thorough search was immediately begun, there is no lake, marsh, or bog in the vicinity, and no probability that there were any wild beasts in the neighborhood, which facts make the disappearance a very mysterious one. Etta was a beautiful child, the pet of the family, and it was a hard blow to the parents.

There are five schools in the town. The first teacher was Henry Sears, who taught school in a private house in 1860. The first schoolhouse was built in 1866, but burned before its completion, and rebuilt the following year.

There are two steam saw-mills in the town. One is owned by A. J. Phillips, and located on the bank of Granite Lake, and the other belongs to John Buckman, and is operated in the south part of the town.

There has been an organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church here since 1861. Elder Robinson held the first services.

The population, according to the census of 1880, was 786, and the agricultural report for the same year shows the following products: wheat, 33,569 bushels; oats, 7,704 bushels; corn, 14,660 bushels; barley, 90 bushels; rye, 175 bushels;

potatoes, 2,575 bushels; cultivated hay, 105 tons; wild hay, 813 tons; wool, 1,617 pounds; butter, 11,555 pounds; and honey, 975 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

MARK MATHEW BRIDGES, a native of Bangor, Maine, was born on the 26th of December, 1835. His father died when he was but ten years old. He received a common school education, and followed farming while living in his native State. In 1857, he came to Minneapolis, and soon after, to Anoka, where he worked in a saw-mill for one year, after which he attended the Academy at Monticello, Wright county, for two terms. He enlisted at Fort Snelling, in Company D, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Payne; was at Fort Abercrombie for three years, serving in the Indian war until December, 1861. He resides on a farm in section eighteen, and has been Chairman of the board of Supervisors since living in the town. Married Miss Eliza Curtis in the year 1860. They have seven children, four boys and three girls.

EDMOND BONIN, a native of Montreal, Canada, was born on the 8th of August, 1834, where he lived, learning the blacksmith trade. In 1857, went to California, and after traveling through a part of Washington Territory and Oregon, returned to San Francisco, and soon after came back by the Isthmus of Panama, to New York, and thence to his native place. In 1863, he came to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he was employed in the United States Armory. After some time, returned to Montreal, Canada, where he kept hotel until coming to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1878, where he was also in the hotel business for one year. Then removed to his present farm in section six, in 1879. He was married to Miss Anna Alken, a native of Canada, in the year 1863. They have had three children, but two of whom are living.

FREDERICK M. CADWELL, a native of Madison county, New York, was born on the 26th of March, 1828. When he was six years old, the family moved to Calhoun county, Michigan, where he received a good common school education. After becoming a man, he went to Racine county, Wisconsin, and remained for two years. In August, 1852, located on a farm in Wright County, Minnesota; then, in 1855, removed to Clearwater, and engaged in agricultural pursuits; and in 1861, located in section fourteen, Albion township, where he still resides. In July, 1863, removed his fam-





ily to Wisconsin, and in January, 1864, enlisted in Company A, of the Twenty-Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Went first to Nashville; was in the Atlanta Campaign, in General Sherman's "March to the Sea," and in the campaign under Sherman from Savannah to Raleigh, being mustered out at the latter place in June, 1865. Then came to Wisconsin for his family and with them returned to his home in Albion. Mr. Cadwell has been Supervisor for several terms since a citizen of the town. He was joined in marriage with Miss Esther E. McCrory, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 11th of February, 1857. They have a family of four children; one boy and three girls.

GEORGE EAGY, a native of Rush county, Indiana, was born on the 20th of December, 1837. His mother died when he was quite young, after which he made his home with a Mr. Hite, till fourteen years of age, when he began to make his own living. He worked on a farm and attended common schools while a youth; then followed agricultural pursuits until he left his native State in 1866, when he came to Minnesota. Soon after landing in the State, located in the town of Albion, remaining till 1874, when he moved to Monticello, keeping a restaurant and confectionery for a few years. In 1878, returned to this town and located on a farm in section eleven, where he still resides. He has been Supervisor and Assessor for several terms since his residence here. He married Miss Mary E. Phillips, a native of Indiana, on the 25th of October, 1860. They have had a family of six children, four of whom are living.

ORIN B. TRAVIS is a native of Seneca county, New York. His parents died when he was quite young. He learned the carpenter trade in youth and followed it until leaving the State in 1867. Came to Minnesota the same year, and located on a farm in Albion township, where he lived until 1870, when he returned to New York, and was employed at his trade for six years. In 1876, he returned to Minnesota, and located on his present farm in section eleven. He married Miss Abby Hutchins, of New York, in the year 1860. They have eight living children; four boys and four girls.

ALEXANDER FASHANT, a native of Belgium, was born on the 4th of October, 1821, where he attained manhood, receiving a common school education. He learned the art of stone cutting, which he followed for twenty years before leaving his

native country. He emigrated to America in 1852, locating in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he followed his trade for a short time, then bought a farm, on which he lived until coming to Minnesota in October, 1862. He first located on a farm in section seventeen, but subsequently removed to his present farm in section nineteen, on the south side of Granite Lake. He was joined in marriage to Miss Mary B. Terion, a native of Belgium, in the year 1841. They have eight living children, two boys and six girls. His youngest son, John Baptiste, was born in Wisconsin on the 8th of June, 1860, and by his own efforts, improving the school privileges of the neighborhood and his leisure time, has obtained a good education. He has charge of his father's farm.

ALEXANDER FASHANT, JR., a son of the subject of the last sketch, was born in Belgium on the 5th of August, 1846, where he lived with his parents until ten years of age, then came with them to America, living in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, till the breaking out of the Rebellion. He enlisted at the age of seventeen, in the Navy department at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and went on board the gunboat "Mound City." Was in a number of engagements, and mustered out of service in the fall of 1864. He soon after re-enlisted in the Third Wisconsin Veteran Regiment, for one year or during the war. Was in the battle of Savannah, under General Sherman, and on the famous "March to the Sea," and again mustered out in June, 1865. After completing his army life, came to Minnesota and located on a farm in section five, in this town. He married Miss Catharine Morris, who is a native of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, in the year 1867. They have six children, three boys and three girls.

JOHN GUTHRIE was born in Clare county, Ireland, in about 1822. He was a farmer's boy, which occupation he followed in his native country till about twenty years of age, when he emigrated to America. He was employed at railroading in Massachusetts for a number of years; then moved to the state of Ohio, and worked at farming for about ten years. In April, 1875, came to Minnesota, locating on his present farm in section eighteen. He married Miss H. Murray, who was born in Ireland in the year 1847. They have five children living, two boys and three girls.

THOMAS GUILFORD and ROBERT SETH HOLMES, twin brothers, were born in the province of Ontario, on the 28th of February, 1836, where they



grew to manhood on a farm. Their father died in 1867, and their mother the following year. They came to the United States in 1854. Thomas learned the carpenter trade at Port Huron, which he followed only for a short time. In June, 1856, the brothers came to their present farms in sections nine and ten, Albion township, where they still reside. They have kept for many years what is known as the Half-way House; have also kept the Albion Post-office, except for about two years, since its establishment in 1859. Thomas G. was Captain of a scouting party during the Indian war; both taking an active part in subduing the Indians. He was married on the 27th of December, 1880, to Miss Dora Foster, who was born in La Crosse county, Wisconsin.

JAMES KNOTTS was born near the city of Baltimore, Maryland, on the 25th of October, 1825. Soon after his birth, the family moved to Franklin county, Indiana, where they located on a farm near Bloomington Grove, where James grew to manhood. He followed teaming from Bloomington Grove to Cincinnati for a number of years. Then moved to Indianapolis, where he lived until 1867, when he moved to Minnesota, and located on his present farm in section eight, where he has since lived. He married, in the year 1850, Miss Emily Phillips, who was born near Indianapolis, Indiana. They have eight children living; seven boys and one girl.

JOHN LOVE was born in Rutland county, England, on the 26th of August, 1830, where he lived till twenty-one years of age. He emigrated to America in 1851, living in Albany, New York, until 1854; then went to Dyersville, Iowa, and engaged in farming for three years. Then went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming, and in 1868, moved to Scott county, Minnesota, where he lived one year. In 1869, he moved to his present farm in section twenty-two, Albion township. He married Miss Isabella L. Brown, in the year 1867, who was born on Jersey Island, in the English Channel. They have three children; two boys and one girl.

WILLIAM HENRY LORD was born near the city of Augusta, Maine, on the 23d of July, 1835. Soon after his birth, the family moved to Chisago town in the same State, where William received a good common school education. His father was a millwright and carpenter, which trades he also learned. In 1858, came to Monticello, Minnesota, working in a saw mill for Blanchard & Co., until

August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Was on the frontier and at Fort Ripley that fall, and the following summer, in Gen. Sully's expedition; was in a number of skirmishes with the Indians in the Black Hills; went south in the fall of 1864; was in a number of important battles, and mustered out in August 1865. Then returned to Minnesota, and engaged in the mercantile business at Buffalo, Wright county, where he was Sheriff for four years; and traveling salesman for Post and Davis, of Minneapolis, for three years. He came to Albion in 1877, and located in section eighteen, where he still resides. He was twice married. His first wife, by whom he had four children, died in May, 1877. He married Miss Eugenie Jouanna, a native of France, in 1879. They have one child.

FREDERICK B. NAYER was born in Strassburg, in the province of Alsace, Germany, on the 24th of January, 1853. He received a good education, graduating in the scientific department at Strassburg in the class of 1871. He enlisted in the medical staff in the late Franco-Prussian war, and was present at several hard fought battles and the siege of Metz, in 1871. He came to Wright county in 1872, attending the State University, at Minneapolis, in the winter of 1873, in order to more perfectly master the English language, and has been teaching school most of the time since. Since 1878, has given some attention to the study of law, but is now farming and has a loan and collecting agency. He married Miss Sophia Coyer, in 1879. They have had two children, one of whom is living.

ROBERT LEWIS PHILLIPS was born in the town of Cambridge, Vermont, on the 22d of April, 1808, where he attained manhood, receiving a common school education. He learned the carpenter and millwright trade, and was a contractor in his native State. In 1853, moved to Lake City, Wisconsin, and was one of the first settlers of that place. He kept a hotel for one year at Kingston, Meeker county, and came to Albion in 1866, taking a homestead on which he lived till 1878, when he moved to his present farm in section twenty-nine. He enlisted in Company M, of the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and took part in a number of severe engagements, in one of which he received a wound, resulting in a permanent injury, for which he receives a pension. He has been Supervisor and Justice of the





Peace a number of terms. He was married recently to Mrs. Abigail Ellsworth.

ANDREW JACKSON PHILLIPS, a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, was born on the 16th of November, 1832, where he resided till sixteen years of age attending school. His father died when he was but ten years old. At the age of twenty years, he commenced to learn the machinist trade, and followed that business for about six years. In August, 1855, came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and worked at the carpenter trade during the winter. He took a contract from the Government to survey eight townships, during which time he passed through Albion, and soon after made this town his home, and was among the first to settle here. He came to his present farm, in section twenty, in 1863. Was in the State Militia several months during the Indian war. He afterwards enlisted, March 21st, 1864, in Company B, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; was in several important engagements in the South, and mustered out in August, 1865. Then returned to his farm in Wright county, where he has since resided. He has held nearly all the town offices at different times. Was married on the 1st of January 1862, to Miss Geneva Howard, of Bristol, Belgium. They have six children; three girls and three boys.

## BUFFALO.

### CHAPTER CXIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—MANUFACTURING—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Buffalo lies in the northeast center of the county, and embraces an area of about 23,040 acres, of which 4,792 are under cultivation.

The surface was originally nearly all covered with timber, interspersed with many natural meadows. The soil, like most of the timber land in the county, is a rich, dark loam, with a clay subsoil. A large portion of the surface (about 3,500 acres) is covered with lakes.

Buffalo Lake, from which the town derives its name, lies partly in Buffalo and partly in Chatham; Lake Pulaski is about two miles to the northeast, and Pelican Lake extends into the northeast

corner of the town from Monticello and Frankfort. These are the largest lakes; all are beautiful sheets of water and abound in fish.

Buffalo Lake was named by the Indian traders many years ago, on account of the large numbers of buffalo fish found in the lake. This locality was a famous camping ground of the Sioux, where they came in summer, to fish and gather cranberries, and in the winter, to hunt deer. It is not known that the Sioux had any permanent or established village on the shore of Buffalo Lake, but in later years, the Winnebagoes had a large village where the village of Buffalo, the county seat of Wright county, now stands.

In 1855, the houses or tepees covered the entire space between where the saw mill now is and the ravine between the American House and the Court House.

A few patches of corn were cultivated by the squaws, and the men spent their time in fishing and hunting.

Here the annual payments were made, and a trading post was established at the west end of Lake Pulaski.

In 1851, Mr. Brissette, an Indian trader living at Lake Calhoun, near Minneapolis, with several other French pioneers, cut a road through the timber from Lake Calhoun to Buffalo, by way of the west side of Medicine Lake, Independence Lake, and Lake Sarah, crossing Crow river at Rockford, then going north of the present Rockford and Buffalo road, crossing the creek between the marsh and lake, near where the dwelling house of George Sook now stands. It was a crooked, narrow road, but many journeys were made to Buffalo and the trading post at Lake Pulaski. The first settlers used this old traders' road as late as 1857-58.

The first man to permanently locate in this township was Augustus Prime, who settled on section nine in April, 1855. He died at Monticello in 1870. He was followed by Solomon Hatch, a native of Maine, who came here in May, of the same year, purchasing a claim that had been previously made on section five. He brought his family to their new home in October of the same year, and resided there until his death, which occurred in January, 1874. His son still resides on the old homestead. During the same fall, Amasa Ackley and G. A. J. Overton came to the shores of Buffalo Lake, and selected claims on section thirty, whither they removed in the follow-



ing February. Mr. Ackley still resides on the old homestead, a part of which is covered by the village of Buffalo, and Mr. Overton died in Stevens county, in March, 1881. James Griffin came with his team to move Ackley and Overton, and, being pleased with the locality, selected a claim on section thirty-two, and occupied it with his family on the 15th of the same month. Mr. Griffin is a colored man and is still an occupant of the old claim.

The spring of 1856, witnessed the arrival of Moses S. Calkins, David Calkins, Daniel Gray, Thomas Smithson, and S. B. Culver, all settling in the vicinity of Buffalo and Pulaski Lakes. J. M. Keeler, Mr. Odell, and Jackson Taylor came the same summer.

The first child born in the town was William M. Smithson, son of Thomas Smithson, born on the 20th of May, 1856, and died on the 31st of the same month. The first marriage took place on the 16th of April, 1857; the contracting parties being James Gilbert and Miss Jennie Prime.

In January, 1857, an election precinct was organized, called Buffalo, which extended to the west line of the county.

The precinct was established by the board of County Commissioners, and the following precinct officers appointed: Judges of election, Amasa Ackley, Moses Calkins, and Levi B. Culver; Justice of the Peace, G. A. J. Overton; Constable, A. Ackley; and Overseer of Roads, Moses S. Calkins. The place of holding elections was the dwelling house of A. Ackley.

The town was organized and the first election held on the 11th of May, 1858, at which the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, Jackson Taylor, Amasa Ackley, and Moses S. Calkins; Town Clerk, J. M. Keeler; Justices of the Peace, David S. Calkins and J. M. Keeler; and Assessor, B. Ambler.

There was a Baptist Church organized in 1858, by Rev. M. Weeks, but it has not been very prosperous.

The first district school was organized on the 1st of May, 1858, and Mrs. D. Blakely installed as teacher.

During the Indian outbreak of 1862, most of the settlers fled to Monticello, but nearly all returned to their homes within six weeks. Some, however, refusing to further risk their lives in such a barbarous country, never returned.

A band of strolling Sioux passed through the county in June, 1863, and murdered the Dustin

family, of which mention has already been made. This created another panic at Buffalo, but this time, better counsel prevailed, and a substantial stockade was erected. It was about 60x60 feet, and eight feet high, built of logs with a bastion at each corner. No Indians appeared, however, and the fort was soon abandoned.

The town of Buffalo originally embraced six sections of the present town of Rockford and all of the territory now embraced in Chatham, but was reduced to its present limits on the organization of the latter town in 1866.

#### BUFFALO VILLAGE.

The village proper was surveyed and platted in 1856, but has never been incorporated. It was entered as a town-site by Amasa Ackley, G. A. J. Overton and Jackson Taylor. The first dwelling house was built and occupied by Mr. Ackley.

The first store was built in 1856, by Moses Calkins, opposite Jackson Taylor's Hotel, the site then being what is now Mrs. Dudley's garden.

Jackson Taylor opened the first hotel, and has kept a public house here for nearly twenty years. The Windsor House was opened in 1874, and rendered quite popular under the able management of R. Knights, assisted by the kind hostess and their estimable family. The Sturges House was built in 1867, and kept by Lewis Sturges until May, 1879, when it passed into the hands of Charles L. Harvey, who repaired it and changed the name to the American House.

In 1859, Mr. Taylor purchased the saw mill at Rockford, and moved it to Buffalo, but it did not work well and very little sawing was done. The engine and boiler were afterwards taken to Monticello and put into a steamboat on the Mississippi river.

In the fall of 1866, Jackson Taylor, Wesley Bailey, and C. Harvey built the steam saw mill on the lake shore, which, for a number of years, did a large business, but the property has been in litigation for the last few years, and the mill stands idle.

#### CHURCHES.

The first church organized was of the Baptist denomination, in 1858, but owing to deaths and removals, there are but a few members left. There is a Catholic Church in the eastern part of the town, with a large membership.

The Presbyterian Church is the only one in the village. It was organized on the 10th of December, 1875, with eight members; C. E. Oakley and





E. J. Cutts were elected elders. The church was erected in 1876, and is a well finished building. The pulpit has been filled by Revs. J. W. Dickey, H. P. Falleneider, J. P. McLane, and H. C. Cheadle.

## SOCIETIES.

NELSON LODGE, No. 135, A. F. AND A. M. was organized on the 15th of December, 1879, with seventeen charter members.

BUFFALO GROVE, No. 13, U. A. O. D. was instituted on the 10th of June, 1876, with a membership of eighteen.

BUFFALO LODGE, No. 140, I. O. OF G. T. had a large membership, and did good work for a time, but is not now in a very flourishing condition.

BUFFALO GRANGE, No. 16, P. of H. was in a vigorous condition for a time, but the interest died out and the grange no longer exists.

NEWSPAPER.—The only paper ever published in Buffalo township was the "Truth Teller," a small sheet edited and printed by Frank H. Widstrand, at his home on the bank of Lake Constance. It first appeared in 1879, and was issued semi-monthly, but ceased to exist after a brief life of about one year and a half.

Buffalo village is the county seat of Wright county, which is certainly situated in a very desirable location. The court-house and grounds, on the bank of the lake, are among the finest in the State.

The population of the township, according to the last census, was 718 persons, including the village.

The agricultural report for the same year showed the following aggregate products: wheat, 35,169 bushels; oats, 13,836 bushels; corn, 10,786 bushels; rye, 200 bushels; potatoes, 3,885 bushels; beans, 45 bushels; sugar cane, 2,327 gallons; cultivated hay, 397 tons; wild hay, 1,247 tons; wool, 4,598 pounds; butter, 16,532 pounds; and cheese, 60 pounds.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

W. WORTH BRASIE was born at Key West, Florida, on the 1st of November, 1844. His parents, soon after his birth, moved to Illinois, subsequently to Wisconsin, and in 1854, to Monticello, Wright county, Minnesota, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the age of seventeen, he entered Lombard University, at Galesburg, Illinois, remaining three years, and afterwards graduated at Eastman's Commercial College, Poughkeepsie, New York. Then engaged in mer-

chandising and book-keeping in different places till 1877, when he became clerk in the Auditor's office of Wright county. The department improved in its system of book-keeping, so that in 1879, the Public Examiner pronounced the books "the best in the State." In 1879, he became Clerk of the Court, and soon made some important changes in the books pertaining to his office. He also aided in revising the system of the County Treasurer's books. He married Miss Susie Weeks, of Minneapolis, on the 2d of July, 1867. They have one child living; N. Eugene.

ARCHIBALD BEATTIE was born near Montreal, Canada, on the 20th of January, 1847. At the age of twenty-two, he left home and engaged in farming at Lenoxville, near the United States line, for three years. In the spring of 1870, came to Minneapolis and was engineer in the paper mill till 1874, when he moved to Buffalo, Wright county, and bought an interest in the lumber and stave mill, which he now controls alone. He and Mr. Knights built a hotel the same year, but in the summer of 1881, he bought Knights's interest, and now rents the building.

ORLANDO H. BUSHNELL, a native of Illinois, was born on the 27th of November, 1844. He came to Rockford, Minnesota, in the spring of 1859, where he was employed at farming and lumbering. In 1862, he enlisted in the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years; fourteen months in the Indian war, and the remaining part of the time in the South. He was mustered out on the 19th of August, 1865. He returned to Rockford, remaining till 1872, when he married Miss Ella Ackley, a daughter of one of the first settlers in Buffalo, located in this town, and has resided here ever since. He has filled the office of Town Treasurer, Assessor, and County Commissioner. They have one child, named Mary.

FRED BRANDES, a native of Hanover, Germany, was born on the 10th of July, 1837. He came to America in the fall of 1854, and after a short sojourn in Utica, New York, went to Cook county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming for a few years. In 1858, he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Pine county, which was his home for four years. While a resident of that county, he was twice elected Judge of Probate, but resigned during his second term, to engage in business in St. Paul. Going to that city in 1862, he became a partner in one of the leading wholesale houses, but severed his connection with the firm in



1869, and removed to Delano, Wright county. During the first years of his residence there, he was engaged in railroading, and afterwards at farming until 1879, when he was elected Register of Deeds, which position he now occupies. He was married on the 26th of March, 1859, while a resident of Pine county, to Miss Regina Eppel; that being the second marriage ceremony in that county. Their children are, Fred J., George C., Charles G., Katie A., Theodore, Joseph, and John W.

WILLIAM H. COCHRANE was born in Quebec, Canada, on the 18th of August, 1838. In 1857, he came to Minnesota, and settled in Marysville, Wright county. Two years later, he went to New Orleans, and was employed in a wholesale house until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he went to Pittsburg Pennsylvania. He enlisted on the 11th of April, 1861, in the Eighth Pennsylvania Reserves, was promoted to First Lieutenant and served upwards of three years. When this regiment disbanded, he enlisted in the First Army Corps of Veterans, organized by Gen. Hancock, and was soon after promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant. He was mustered out at New York, in March, 1866, when he returned to this county and took a homestead in Chatham township, where he lived until 1873, and removed to the village of Buffalo. He has long held the office of Notary Public and Justice of the Peace, and is also Deputy Register of Deeds. Miss Hattie M. Aldrich became his wife in December, 1878. They have two children; Grace E., and John W.

WILLIS H. CADY dates his birth in Lake county, Illinois, on the 23d of November, 1846. The family removed to Missouri in 1856, and to Minnesota in the spring of 1862. Willis remained at home on the farm until 1871, when he went to Minneapolis, and while employed on a new building, fell to the ground and received injuries which permanently impaired his health. He returned to Buffalo in the spring of 1873, and remained invalid for some time. His next employment was in the store of Gullet & Davis at Clearwater, after which he was clerk in the Auditor's office at Buffalo for three years. In February, 1877, he commenced clerking in the store of C. E. Outley, and still remains in that position. Mr. Cady was united in marriage with Miss Alice Dudley on the 23d of November, 1868. She is a native of Vermont, and came to this county with her parents in 1859.

DAVID COCHRAN was born in Taylor county, West Virginia, on the 3d of September, 1846. He resided in his native State until 1864, when he removed to Illinois, and the following spring, to Minnesota. He took a claim in Middleville township, Wright county, but sold it in 1868, and went to Minneapolis, where he was engaged as civil engineer for a time. In 1870, he began the study of law, and taught school several terms to obtain money for the prosecution of his studies. He was on the Northern Boundary survey in 1874, going as far west as the Rocky Mountains. Soon after his return, he was appointed Deputy Sheriff at Howard Lake, entered the law office of Josephus Alley, and was admitted to the Bar a few months later. He then opened a law office at Waverly, where he remained until the fall of 1879, when he was elected Judge of Probate and removed to Buffalo, where he now lives.

ROSOLVO O. CADY, M. D., President of the Wright and Carver Counties Medical Society, and a practicing physician since 1844, needs little by way of introduction to the citizens of Wright and adjoining counties. His father was among the leading attorneys of Dublin, Ireland, where the subject of this sketch was born on the 8th of October, 1819. The family came to America about 1827, locating in Nassau, Rensselaer county, New York, where the father died in 1849, and the mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Campbell, in 1856. In March, 1844, Dr. R. O. Cady, was graduated at the Medical College at Geneva, New York, and at once entered upon the professional career which has since engrossed his time and energies. After twelve years practice in Illinois, and six in Missouri, the growing fame of the North Star State drew him hither, and in June, 1862, Dr. Cady became a resident of Buffalo, which has since been his home. Physicians were not numerous at that date, and his rides were often extended into adjoining counties. In these journeyings his constant companion was his rifle, in the use of which he was no novice, and venison and other wild game often graced the family board. These extended professional rides are no longer a necessity, but the doctor has not lost his love of sport, and each recurring autumn finds him in northern forests, from which he never returns unsuccessful. His professional labors are now shared by a recently accepted partner, Dr. S. E. Dean. In June, 1881, he was appointed Medical Examiner for the Pension district in which he resides.





He was one of the charter members of the Masonic lodge at Buffalo, and is a Scarlet-degree Odd Fellow. Dr. Cady has been twice married, first in 1840, to Miss Eliza J. Smith, of Chemung county, New York, who died in 1859, having borne five children, four of whom are living. In 1860, he married Miss Sarah A. Davis, of Knox county, Missouri, by which union three children have been born. The family residence is on a well developed farm near the village of Buffalo, and the Doctor's office in his drug store near the courthouse.

GEORGE DAVIES is a native of Wales, born on the 29th of November, 1829. After arriving at maturity, he was employed as an apprentice in a galvanizing establishment in Birmingham, England. He came to America in 1855, and after a stay of one year in New York City, went to Licking county, Ohio, and a few months later, came to St. Paul, Minnesota. In June, 1857, he came to Wright county and selected a claim on section eighteen, to which he removed the same fall. In 1861, he removed to section seventeen, on the west bank of Lake Pulaski, where he has a pleasant home, overlooking the waters of this beautiful lake, which is acknowledged to be the finest in the county. The view from his residence is charming, rivaling many of the popular resorts of the State. Mr. Davies enlisted on the 1st of October, 1861, in Company A, of the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was captured with the regiment at Muafreesboro', and on being paroled, returned to this State and took part in the Indian war. Was afterwards with the army in Arkansas, and also at the siege of Vicksburg. He returned from the service in 1865, and has since been engaged in farming. He has held the office of Chairman of the board of Supervisors, and has also been Assessor and Deputy Sheriff, holding the latter office ten years. He was married in England in February, 1855, to Miss Maria Wilkins, of Gloucestershire. They have had no children, but raised two sons of a deceased sister of Mrs. Davies.

ANGUS McEACHERN, one of the early pioneers of this town, was born on the 25th of December, 1828, in Nova Scotia. His grandfather, for whom he was named, was among the earliest colonists sent by the English Government to America, after the French war. He spent five years as a sailor, visiting the coasts of Scotland and other eastern points, and also the coast of Greenland and vicin-

ity. He spent some time on the river Clyde of Scotland, visiting Corra Linn Caseades, which are among the most picturesque scenery of Scotland. Mr. McEachern came to Minnesota in 1856, landing at Stillwater on the 18th of January, and was engaged at lumbering till 1858, when he came to Maple Lake, Wright county. He enlisted in the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in 1864, serving one year. After returning from the army, bought his present farm in section five. Has lumbered several winters, but devotes most of his time to farming. He married Miss Eliza Hopkins, of Canadian parentage, at St. Anthony, on the 15th of July, 1858. Their children are, Mary, Randall C., Angus, John, Hugh, Archie L., Alexander M., and George H.

FRANK W. GORMAN was born in Canada, on the 2d of January, 1847. His parents came to Minnesota in 1869, and settled in Maple Lake township, Wright county. Frank was engaged in teaching school until 1876, when he was elected Register of Deeds, and re-elected in 1878, discharging the duties of the office in a creditable manner. Since the expiration of his last term of office, he has been engaged in the real estate business, besides conducting a collecting, loan, and insurance agency, and abstract office. Mr. Gorman was married on the 11th of June, 1879, to Miss Jennie Stuart, of Monticello. They have one child, named Willie F.

CHARLES L. HARVEY, deceased, a native of Scotland, was born on the 2d of January, 1829. When he was a young man, the family, consisting of his parents and three brothers, emigrated to Canada, where the father and sons all engaged in mercantile business in Hamilton. In June, 1854, Charles L. came to Minnesota, and located on the east side of Pulaski Lake, where he remained till 1863, when he returned to Canada. After three years, ill health caused him to return to Minnesota, and he located on a farm near Paradise Lake, in the town of Monticello. In 1879, he sold part of the farm and bought the Sturges House in Buffalo, changing the name to the American House. His health continued to decline for some years, and after making a trip to Canada, hoping to receive benefit, but being disappointed, and fully persuaded that the disease was affecting his mental faculties, voluntarily went to the hospital at St. Peter for treatment, where his death occurred on the 14th of April, 1880. His remains were brought to his home in Buffalo, where, after appropriate



obsequies, the body was buried in the village cemetery. Mr. Harvey won and maintained the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens during his life. Mrs. Harvey has displayed commendable energy in her successful management of the business since the death of her husband. Mr. Harvey married Miss Anna McPherson, of Canada, in November, 1866. They have had seven children, of whom five are living; Nettie, Carrie, Emma J., Anne L., and Frederick. Those deceased were named William and William A.; the former died at the age of eleven months, and the latter when five and a half years old.

GEORGE W. MCINTURF was born in Licking county, Ohio, on the 5th of April, 1820. At the age of sixteen years he commenced to learn the carpenter trade, at which he was employed until 1846. He then came westward, and after remaining some time in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, came to Minnesota in 1865, and soon after, settled on section twenty-eight, Buffalo township, where he still resides. Mr. McInturf is one of the representative men of the town, and has held a number of local offices. He is one of the charter members of Nelson Lodge, A. F. and A. M., of Buffalo, and was elected Worshipful Master in 1880. He was married in April, 1842, to Miss Elizabeth De Moss, of Bennington, Ohio. Their living children are; Lafayette, Amarilla, and Cynthia J. They have lost several by death; Andrew, aged twenty years, in 1867, and the others in infancy.

CLARENCE E. OAKLEY was born in Kings county, New York, on the 17th of May, 1846. When he was seven years old, the family moved to New York City, where Clarence attended school, and subsequently, was employed as book-keeper in a mercantile house. In the fall of 1873, he came to Minnesota, and in company with E. J. Cutts, opened a general store at Buffalo. He purchased his partner's interest in 1877, and has since conducted the business alone. He also deals in real estate, and is serving his third term as Town Treasurer. Mr. Oakley was united in marriage with Miss Anna L. Dudley, of New York City, on the 6th of April, 1869. Their children are, Egbert S., Frances B., and Walter D.

ALLEN G. SEXTON, a native of Chemung county, New York, was born on the 20th of July, 1835. He was employed on a farm till 1853, when he came to Minnesota, and spent the summer at St. Anthony, then returned to New York. The year following, he made a second trip to Minnesota,

visiting different portions of the State. He took a claim about 1856, in section nineteen, Rockford, Wright county, where he spent his summers, and his winters, hunting and trapping. He enlisted in June, 1861, in the second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; serving about eighteen months, when he was discharged for disability. He returned to Rockford, and soon after joined a company of scouts, remaining on duty till the close of the Indian war. He was on the Northern Pacific survey to Yellow Stone, and on the Northern Boundary survey through Montana, remaining two years, then returned to Buffalo, and began the study of law. He was admitted to the Bar in the spring of 1880, was in the office of J. H. Wendell one year, and then opened an office in this village, where he is now in practice.

OLIVER J. STEWARD was born in Saybrook, Ohio, on the 7th of July, 1848. When he was seventeen years old, the family removed to Valparaiso, Indiana, where Oliver remained four years. He then attended school for two years, after which he was employed for some time as a marble worker. We next find him a student at the Grand River Institute, Ohio, where he was graduated in 1872, at the end of a three years course. In the fall of the same year he entered the senior class at Hillsdale College, Michigan, but only remained one term, going to Pennsylvania, where he was Principal of a graded school for four months. He then returned to Indiana, and thence to Ohio, where he soon after married Miss Emma E. Lathrop, of Anstinburg. The next two years were spent as Principal of a graded school at Lowell, Indiana, after which he occupied the responsible position of Principal of the Western Reserve Seminary at Farmington, Ohio, for one year. He came to Minnesota in 1876, and after spending one summer at Rockford, Wright county, went to Delano as Principal of the school at that place. In 1877, he was elected County Superintendent of Schools, and re-elected in 1879, with upwards of one thousand majority. He now resides at Buffalo, whither he removed in the spring of 1879. His children, are Anna L., Carrie E., and Oliver J.

JOHN C. NUGENT, a native of Medford, Massachusetts, was born on the 18th of March, 1846. When John C. was nine years of age, the family removed to Michigan, and two years later, to Minnesota, stopping at St. Paul for two years. In 1859, the family removed to Wright county, where





his father died January 24th, 1878. His mother, brother James, and a sister still reside on the farm. John C. bought a farm in sections twenty-four and twenty-five, Chatham township, and has lived there since May, 1873. He was elected Sheriff of Wright county in 1870, and has held the office ever since, being elected in the fall of 1869, by nearly one thousand majority. He married Miss Emma J. Washburn, a native of Oswego, New York, in the city of St. Paul, on the 9th of September, 1872. Their children are, Nettie M., John C., and Mabel C.

NATHAN WARNER was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, on the 4th of March, 1830. When he was but five years old, the family removed to Steuben county, Indiana, and some time after, to La Grange, where the subject of this sketch remained until 1856. He then spent ten years in different portions of Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, chiefly engaged in milling. Came to Minnesota in 1866, and settled in Rockford, Wright county, where he resided until his removal to Buffalo, in the fall of 1879. Mr. Warner is one of Wright county's most enterprising and public spirited citizens, and has always taken a deep interest in its welfare. He represented his district in the State Legislature in 1875-76, and again in 1878, and was Chairman of the board of Supervisors in his town for a number of years. He was elected County Treasurer in the fall of 1879, and has since discharged the duties of that office in an efficient and praiseworthy manner. Mr. Warner has been twice married; first to Emily J. Randall, of La Grange, Indiana, on the 19th of March, 1853. She died on the 8th of October, 1860, leaving three children; Frank E., Eva May, and Eugene G. His present wife was Miss Nancy I. Ingraham, of New York State, to whom he was married, at Mongo, Indiana, in November, 1863. Six children are the result of this union; Charles, Edith E., Minnie, Rose A., Eunice, and Rhua.

SYLVESTER R. WELLS is a native of Rock Island, Illinois, and was born on the 24th of September, 1840. He remained in his native State until August, 1862, when he enlisted in the Eighty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in twenty-one engagements. He was wounded in the left hip in front of Atlanta, and was saved from death by the buckle of his belt receiving the force of a musket ball, and also received other wounds. He was mustered out at Nashville, on the 10th of June, 1865. In 1869, he came to

Minnesota and settled at Buffalo, where he soon after opened a cabinet shop, and still continues the business. He was appointed Town Clerk of Buffalo in 1872, elected the following year, and still holds the office. Mr. Wells was united in marriage with Miss Addie R. Grenell, at Moline, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1862.

JOSEPH H. WENDELL was born in Oakland county, Michigan, on the 25th of January, 1841. He remained with his parents until fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to the trade of carpenter and joiner, at which he was employed during summer and taught school in winter until twenty years of age. He then began the study of law, but after one year, went to West Virginia and was engaged in the oil business until February, 1870. He then returned to his native State, and soon after, resumed the study of law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1872. Then began the practice of law in partnership with W. B. Jackson, now a leading attorney in Detroit, Michigan, but after a year, entered the law department of Ann Arbor University, and graduated in the class of 1873. The following summer was spent in traveling through the States west of the Mississippi, and between the Gulf of Mexico and Minnesota. In 1874, he settled at Buffalo, where he has since been engaged in the active practice of his profession. He was elected County Commissioner in the fall of 1874, and County Attorney the following year, being re-elected to the latter office at each succeeding election to the present time. Mr. Wendell has been twice married; first to Elizabeth Washburn in April, 1874, who died on the 8th of March, 1879. His present wife was Miss Annie Covart, of Monticello, to whom he was married on the 4th of November, 1880.

BENJAMIN WARD, a native of Caledonia county, Vermont, was born on the 19th of March, 1807. He removed to Dane County, Wisconsin, in 1856, and to Minnesota in the spring of 1857, locating on section eighteen, Buffalo township. He was one of the organizers of the town, and has been Town Treasurer for eight years. He married Miss Keziah Jackson, a native of Vermont, who died in this county on the 27th of August, 1880. They had three children, but one of whom is living. He is named Thaddens and was born at Danville, Vermont, on the 20th of January, 1835. He came with his parents to Minnesota, in 1857, and has always lived with or near them. He married Miss Emeline Chickering, in Vermont, on the 14th of



November, 1862. They had two children, Franklin and Etta. His wife died in April, 1871. He chose for a second wife Miss Jenny Flynn, of this town, who has borne him four children; George, Orrilla, Freddie, and Eva W.

## CHATHAM.

### CHAPTER CXX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—MANUFACTURES—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Chatham is situated near the center of the county and embraces an area of about 11,520 acres, 1,155 being under cultivation. Like the other timber towns of the county, the surface is somewhat broken, lakes, marshes, and timber being the rule.

The greater portion of Buffalo Lake lies in this town, besides quite a number of small bodies of water. Mill creek is the only stream worthy of notice; it affords a good water-power.

The first settler in this town was Moses L. Calkins, who took a claim on section twenty-five in 1855. Samuel Chamberlin settled on section twenty-eight in 1856, and Joseph Armstrong on section thirty-five, in the spring of 1857.

Of these three pioneers, only Mr. Armstrong remains. His home is pleasantly located on the west bank of Buffalo Lake. During the latter year (1857) quite a number of settlers arrived, prominent among whom were, Benjamin Ambler, or Uncle Ben, as he is familiarly called, Thomas Ward, William Sullivan, Gottlieb Haug, and Herman Erath. The population, according to the census of 1880, numbered 274 persons.

A petition, signed by thirty-nine citizens of Buffalo and Maple Lake townships, was presented to the County Commissioners on the 5th of January, 1866, asking for the organization of township 120 north, range 26 west, to be known as Chatham township. The petition was granted, and an election ordered to be held at the house of Benjamin Ambler, on the 22d of January, for the election of township officers. The meeting was held according to notice, and a full set of officers elected. But the town of Chatham was not so easily organized. The town of Maple Lake, organized under an act of the Legislature, on the 11th of May, 1868, claimed the north half of the new

township, and W. G. McCrory, a citizen of Maple Lake, commenced an action in the District Court, to set aside the action of the board of County Commissioners in organizing the town of Chatham. It was a valid claim and the District Court decided in favor of Maple Lake and against the action of the County Commissioners. The decision left Chatham with only the south half of the congressional township in question, and without an organization. An application was made to the Legislature, and that body passed an act allowing the citizens of the new town to organize. By this act, the legal voters of the south half of the township were authorized to meet at the house of Benjamin Ambler on the first Tuesday in April, 1868. The election was held and the following officers chosen: Supervisors, W. W. Washburn, Chairman, Gottlieb Haug and James G. Nugent; Clerk, Herman Erath; Treasurer, James E. Cochran; Assessor, John C. Nugent; Justice of the Peace, W. W. Washburn; and Constable, Albert Erath.

The first child born in the town was Maggie Haug, on the 22d of January, 1858, and the next was Elizabeth E. Armstrong, on the 11th of June of the same year.

The first school was commenced on the 1st of July, 1860, with Alexander Ambler as teacher. The first school house was built the same year. There are now three school districts, with an equal number of good school houses, in which the usual terms are taught.

The only church in the town is St. Charles Church, (Catholic) organized in July, 1857. A temporary building has been erected, in which services are held pending the completion of their new church, now in process of construction. Father Robert has charge of the congregation.

In 1867, Charles H. Irvine, of Monticello, commenced the erection of a dam and flouring mill on section twenty-five, but it was not a success, and a saw mill was finally placed on the site. It, however, did not accomplish much, and the whole enterprise seems to have fallen through.

According to the agricultural report of 1880, Chatham produced the following: wheat, 10,127 bushels; oats, 7,325 bushels; corn, 4,925 bushels; barley, 300 bushels; rye, 40 bushels; potatoes, 2,235 bushels; cultivated hay, 142 tons; wild hay, 297 tons; wool, 1,310 pounds; and butter, 3,495 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOSEPH ARMSTRONG is a native of Westmeath





county, Ireland. He followed farming till coming to America in September, 1848. Came over on the ship "European," lived for a time in New Orleans, then in Iowa and Illinois, and in 1854, came to Minnesota. For three years, he was sexton of the Episcopal Church in St. Paul. Located his present farm on the 16th of April, 1857; it is situated on section thirty-five, west side of Buffalo lake, and contains one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage with Miss Fanny Maynes, of Tyrone county, Ireland, in 1840. Of eight children born to them, three are living, two girls and one boy; Elizabeth Ellen is married to Otis Washburn, and Charles John and Mary Ann are residing with their parents.

BENJAMIN AMBLER was born in Westchester county, New York, on the 28th of August, 1807. When ten years of age he was sent to Connecticut; lived there for four years and returned to his native State, where he learned the trade of mason and builder. Came to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1856, and to his present farm, on section thirty-four, the following year. Since his residence here, Mr. Ambler has been Supervisor, and for several years held the office of Treasurer. His nephew, James Ambler, resides with him and owns part of the farm. The latter was married to Miss Charlotte Cochrane, a native of Canada, in 1865. Their union has been blessed with two daughters.

HERMAN ERATH is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and dates his birth on the 6th of February, 1829. His father was a physician in the French army, during which time, four years, the family resided in Africa. Came to America in 1847, and located in New York, where our subject was employed at his trade, that of a stone-cutter, for about seven years. In 1854, he came west, resided about two years in Wisconsin, and came to Minnesota in September, 1857, and to his present farm the following November. On the 15th of August, 1862, Mr. Erath enlisted in Company A, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Was in Sully's expedition, and in 1864, went South to Murfreesboro', Tennessee; was in an engagement at Kingston, North Carolina, and at Snow Hill. In August, 1865, he was mustered out and returned to his farm in Chatham township. Miss Louisa Dubois became his wife in 1850. She was born on the 12th of July, 1837, in the state of New York.

JOHN D. MURPHY was born at St. Johns, Newfoundland, on the 1st of April, 1837. When a

young man, he traveled over a large portion of the United States, and on the 4th of May, 1861, enlisted in a company known as the Southern Cadets. It was organized in New Orleans and soon after disbanded, our subject joining Company E, of the Fifth Louisiana Volunteer Infantry and participating in several important battles. On the 4th of May, 1863, at the battle of Chancellorsville, he lost his right arm and was taken to the hospital at Richmond, Virginia. After recovering from his wound, he again enlisted in the service and remained till the close of the war. He resides with his parents, who came to Chatham township in 1858. Was married to Miss Mary Pylky, a native of Canada, in 1878. They have two children; Lilly M., and John D.

REV. C. ROBERT, a French Catholic Priest, was born near the city of Lyons, France, on the 18th of September, 1828. He received a classic education and afterwards entered the Theological Seminary at Le Puy. Came to America, and in May, 1854, to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was ordained a priest by Bishop Cretin, and sent to a church named Little Canada, above St. Paul; then to Mendota, remaining till 1861 or 1862. In 1866, he returned to his native place on a visit, remained three years and came again to America. On his return, he had charge of St. Patrick's church at Shieldsville, Rice county, for ten years. In May, 1880, came to his present parish, which numbers about fifty members.

THOMAS WARD was born in Ireland in the year 1827. In 1852, he came to America, remained in New York City a short time, then, in New Jersey a few months, and thence to Ohio, where he was engaged in farming four years. In 1856, he came to Minnesota, spent a year in different parts of the State and came to his present farm, on section twenty-one, in 1857. Was married in March, 1880, to Miss Elizabeth Elsenpeter, of Germany. They have one daughter.

WILLIAM W. WASHBURN was born in Plainville, New York, on the 7th of February, 1841. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and came west in 1860. Located in the town of Buffalo, Wright county, Minnesota, until the 4th of November, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, Brackett's Battalion, and participated in the battles at Fort Henry, Fort Donaldson, and Corinth. Was changed to the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, and wounded at the second battle at Fort Donaldson and discharged. He re-enlisted, came north and was in



Sully's expedition, participating in one engagement with the Indians at the Black Hills. On the 26th of May, 1866, after a service of four and a half years, he was mustered out at Fort Snelling and came to his present farm, which he had taken in 1863, while in the service. Since his residence here, Mr. Washburn has been Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and is at present Justice of the Peace. In 1859, Miss E. Mattison, of New York, became his wife. They have seven children, three sons and four daughters; one daughter, Sarah A., is married to a Mr. Jewett, and lives in this county. The others reside at home.

## COKATO.

### CHAPTER CXXI.

DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
—MILLING—RAILROADS—FIRST SETTLEMENT—  
FIRST THINGS—COKATO VILLAGE.

Cokato is one of the extreme western towns of Wright county, Meeker county forming its western boundary, with the town of French Lake on the north, Middleville east, and Stockholm south.

The surface is gently undulating, except near Cokato lake, and along the Crow river, where it is somewhat hilly. Throughout the town are many fine tracts of wild meadow, from which an excellent quality of hay is obtained.

The soil is a rich dark loam, with clay subsoil, though a narrow belt along Sucker creek, in the southeastern part, is somewhat sandy, with subsoil of coarse sand and gravel.

Its principal lakes are, Cokato lake in the east central part, Swan lake in the northwest, and Beaver Dam lake in the southwest; the last two extending into Meeker county. Smith lake encroaches upon section thirty-six, covering about eighty acres, and Brooks, or Millner lake covers a larger surface in section twenty-eight. A few smaller bodies are also found at intervals throughout the town. Sucker creek enters from the south, flows through Cokato lake, and empties into Crow river, which also waters the northern part of the town.

The first permanent settlers were, Josiah P. Mooers, and his sons, Augustus P., and Henry, in the early spring of 1856. They came to Minnesota, from Maine, in 1852, reaching St. Paul on

the 14th of May, and immediately located on Fridley's Prairie. After four years of ill-rewarded toil, they determined upon seeking better farming lands, and came to this locality, where all took claims near the present village. Josiah P. Mooers is a native of Deerfield, New Hampshire, where his birth occurred December 27th, 1804. His life was spent in agricultural pursuits, remaining in his native State until the age of thirty-two, when he removed to Maine, where he lived until coming to Minnesota. He figures in the history of this town, not only as its first, and oldest living settler, but as its first Postmaster, and prime mover in many of its early events. Mooers Prairie was named in honor of him, as was also the first Post-office, and a town organization, both hereafter mentioned.

The Mooers family were not long without neighbors. They were joined the same season by William Lee, L. Putnam, Timothy Lowell, David Griffith, and Hugh McNulty, and thereafter the settlement enjoyed a steady, though not rapid growth, with some few interruptions, the causes for which are apparent in the County history.

The territory now embraced in Cokato, Middleville, Victor, and Stockholm, was set apart by the County Commissioners in 1858, as the town of Middleville, and an election held on the 11th of May. The same territory constituted a voting precinct as early as 1856, and an election was held at the house of A. E. Cochran that year. In 1861, the present towns of Cokato and Stockholm were set off, and formed the town of Mooers Prairie. Only five voters were present at the first meeting, which was held at the house of Samuel Pafet, near Cokato lake. We have no information respecting the results of this meeting, further than that William Putnam was elected Chairman and member of the board of County Commissioners, and William Lee, Assessor. In 1868, the present organization was effected, and at an election held at the residence of Samuel Allen, on the 4th of August, the following officers were elected: Supervisors, Ahira Cady, Chairman, Martin Edgerly and Hans Erickson; Clerk, A. A. Jenks; Assessor, L. W. Perkins; Justices of the Peace, Henry Mooers and L. W. Perkins. No Treasurer was elected until the annual meeting the following spring.

As early as 1866, a dam was built, and the next year a small saw mill erected at the outlet of Cokato lake, by F. X. Lafond. A feed mill was soon





after attached, and proved a convenience to the early settlers.

On this ground a town site was located, and a few buildings are said to have been erected as early as 1855 or '56, but like most other ventures of the kind at that date, quietly faded away. In 1868, Mr. M. V. Cochran bought an interest with Lafond, and a year later purchased his partner's interest and became sole proprietor, soon after which he built a substantial flouring mill, removing the old mill about two years later. The first stones used in this mill are of historic note, and claim a brief mention here. They were small French burrs, purchased in St. Louis, by Richard Rogers, of St. Anthony, in the summer of 1852, and used by him in grinding the first flour manufactured at the Falls, in December of that year. They were afterwards taken to Clearwater, doing service in pioneer milling at that point, until the burning of the mill, after which they were removed to this place, and two years ago were taken to Watertown, Carver county, where they are used in grinding feed. Mr. Cochran has materially increased his milling facilities since his first efforts, and enjoys a liberal patronage.

In 1869, the railroad reached Cokato, and the population increased rapidly, a large Swede and Finn emigration following, and taking lands in this, and adjoining towns. Of the latter class, the pioneers were, Martin Henre, Ole Westberg, Isaac Parper, and others. These settled in the central and north part of the town, and were soon followed by large numbers, this nationality now constituting the major portion of the population, and, with the Swede element, all, except a few American families. They have a church on section nine, built in 1877, where service is held weekly and a parish school is soon to be established. A cemetery adjoins the church on the east.

They have no local Pastor, but hold meetings under the supervision of leading members and officers, being visited occasionally by an ordained minister.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church is situated on section five, near the town line on the north, with cemetery grounds adjoining on the south. A small log building was erected in 1870, which gave place to a more commodious frame edifice the present year, the old building now serving as a place for conducting the Parish school. Weekly service is held at the church by the Pastor of the Swedish church at Cokato village.

The first white child born in the town, then Mooers Prairie, was Frank Putnam, whose natal date is February, 16th, 1859.

The first death of which we have reliable information, was the wife of Josiah P. Mooers, on the 1st of August, 1860, though it is probable others may have occurred previous to this date.

The first marriage ceremony was performed in the summer of 1860, uniting Amos Chambers and Miss Clara A. Hoyt.

The first religious exercises were held in the house of J. P. Mooers in 1858, by Rev. L. Wood. The first school of which we have any record, was about 1865, in the house of Mr. Edgerly, by Miss McKinney, from near the old town of Greenwood.

COKATO VILLAGE.—When the Mooers family visited this locality in the spring of 1856, they came by way of Greenwood, cutting their own roads through the timber. During the winter previous to their coming, a town site was located here, on section thirty-four, by Messrs. Murphy, Chambers, Sully, Hedderly, Hancock, and Keith, of Minneapolis. They came by way of Monticello, the frosts of winter enabling them to cross lakes, marshes, and streams, without difficulty. Forty acres were surveyed into lots and the prospective city named Glenwood. A hotel was begun, but never finished, and the whole scheme "vanished in thin air" soon after.

In 1867, the east half of the present village plat was taken under the homestead act, by Benjamin Lee, whose claim shanty then built was the first human habitation within the village limits. The west half was taken by Samuel Jenks, who entered the land at the usual government price, in order to dispose of lots. In 1869, the railroad reached this point, and the depot, built soon after, was the first good building in the place. From this time the growth was quite rapid for a time, several families locating here, and a store was opened by A. P. Mooers & Amos Chambers. Mr. Parcher opened a second store about the same time.

In 1872, a hotel was opened by B. Thurstenson, which was conducted by him until September, 1880, when he closed it to the public.

Another hotel was opened two or three years later than the one just mentioned, by Guy Perkins, who conducted it but a short time, since which it has several times changed hands.

A steam flour mill, and a small lumber mill were built in 1873 by Ward Brothers & Runion, both



of which were successfully conducted until destroyed by fire in the spring of 1879.

In 1876, an elevator of thirty thousand bushels capacity, was built here by the Elevator Company, which has since been in constant use.

A large circular elevator was built two years ago by the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Cokato. In May, 1881, it was destroyed by fire, and from the immediate condition of the company's business affairs, arose numerous cases of litigation.

Two elevators were built in 1881; one by Cofield and Wright, with a capacity of twenty thousand bushels; and another by Bull, Edmonds, and Larsson with a capacity of forty thousand bushels. All three elevators use steam power, and handle immense quantities of grain.

A weekly newspaper, called the "Cokato Republican," had a brief existence here in 1878, under the management of Felix Head.

Soon after the completion of the railroad to this point, a school district was organized, and a graded school established in 1879.

A Post-office has been maintained since about 1857, when a private office was established, and A. P. Mooers appointed Postmaster, the office being at his residence south of the present village. Mail was brought from Middleville by private parties until July, 1862, when a route from Rockford to Forest City supplied this office. During the Indian war the route was discontinued, but at its close was resumed, continuing until the completion of the railroad, when the office was moved to the station. In 1876, M. Lewis succeeded Mr. Mooers as Postmaster, and the next year the office passed to C. P. Anderson, the present incumbent. It was made a Money Order office in 1879.

A Swedish Baptist church was formed in June, 1871, with nine members. Services were held at irregular intervals by missionary preachers, until 1874, when their church edifice was finished, and Rev. O. S. Lendberg became the pastor, remaining till 1879, when he was succeeded by Rev. A. Fogelstrom, the present minister. The society own cemetery grounds on section twenty-two.

A Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church was organized January 7th, 1870, with sixty-four communicants, which number has increased to about one hundred and seventy-five. A durable edifice was erected in 1870, and a cemetery located adjoining the village plat on the north, near which a neat parsonage was built about two years ago.

The first pastor was Rev. J. G. Logerstrom, succeeded three years later by Rev. F. Peterson, and he, in July, 1877, by the present pastor, Rev. L. A. Hoemizon, who also officiates as pastor of the church on section five, already mentioned.

In 1874-75 the Methodist Episcopal church held regular services here. A small membership still exists, though meetings are held only at irregular intervals.

The Congregational church is represented by a small society of about three years existence, whose meetings are held each Sunday evening in the Swedish Lutheran church edifice, through the extended courtesy of that society. At one time they had a local pastor, Rev. Mr. Hull, but are now supplied by Rev. Mr. Lewis, stationed at Dassel.

Free Masonry is represented by Cokato Lodge No. 134, A. F. and A. M., organized U. D., December, 1877, and chartered in January, 1879. Its first officers were: E. H. Farnham, W. M.; John Chapman, S. W.; F. M. Jenks, J. W.; K. O. Molstersteigen, Sec.; H. F. Edwards, Treas.; L. Cofield, S. D.; F. M. Ball, J. D.; and Benjamin Lee, Tyler. The present membership is about twenty, and regular communications are held on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month.

The village of Cokato was incorporated by act of the Legislature, approved February 16th, 1878. Its first officers were: President, H. F. Edwards; Trustees, Benjamin Lee, Frank Granfelt, and B. Thurstenson; Recorder, G. A. Wahlquist; Treasurer, A. W. L. Ahnquist.

The village is now well supplied with stores, and the usual list of shops and artisans.

The Depot building is conveniently located, and at present in charge of J. H. McVeety. The first agent was J. E. Jenks, who held the position till 1879, after which several were temporarily in charge till April, 1881, when Mr. McVeety was stationed here.

According to the agricultural report of 1880, the products of Cokato were: wheat, 7,839 bushels; oats, 9,720 bushels; corn, 4,986 bushels; barley, 250 bushels; buckwheat, 23 bushels; potatoes, 1,095 bushels; beans, 20 bushels; wild hay, 1,689 tons; wool, 1,046 pounds; butter, 7,850 pounds; and honey, 2,900 pounds. The cultivated area is 4,535 acres.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

C. J. ANDERSON is a native of Sweden, born on the 28th of October, 1834. He came to America in 1869, and took a homestead in French Lake,





Wright county, where he remained until coming to this township in 1875. He was employed in the store of Peterson and Carlson, as clerk till May, 1878, when he was appointed Postmaster. He kept the books, however, for the firm till they dissolved in 1880. Mr. Anderson speaks several languages and is a most efficient and obliging Postmaster. He has one sister living in this county, she being his only relative this side of Sweden.

ANDREW W. L. ALMQUIST was born in Sweden, on the 17th of October, 1852. When eleven years old, he came with a friend to America, and joined his father in Carver county, Minnesota. Was in Hastings and St. Paul most of the time till coming here, and while at the latter place, was employed as foreman in the shops at the Reform School. Mr. Almquist came to Cokato township in the spring of 1876, and opened a tin shop, to which he soon added hardware, and also sells farm machinery. In February, 1878, he moved to his present location, has the only full line of hardware in town, and does a large business in machinery. Miss Julia M. Kneeland, of this place, became his wife on the 30th of May, 1880. They have one child named Alice C.

GUSTAV BODIN was also born in Sweden, on the 5th of February, 1844. He came to America in 1868, and after a short stay in Illinois, came to Minnesota; was in Stillwater a short time and went thence to St. Paul, where he was employed as clerk in a wholesale store. In 1878, our subject, in company with his brother, John Bodin, opened a general commission house, and also assisted in organizing a company for a large grocery store. He was secretary of the company, and still holds an interest in the business. Mr. Bodin came to this place in 1879, and purchased of G. A. Wahlquist, his present business. The firm is now known as Bodin Bros. & Co. Mr. Bodin is Village Recorder, and also Clerk of the school district. He was married on the 3d of September, 1873, to Miss Johana Johnson.

MORGAN V. COCHRAN, one of the early settlers of Wright county, was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, on the 22d of April, 1836. When he was an infant, his parents removed to Indiana, thence to Iowa, and when our subject was ten years old, returned to Virginia. In the spring of 1855, he came west to seek his fortune. Came by boat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi rivers, to St. Paul, thence by stage to Shakopee, then on

foot to Greenwood, arriving on the 14th of May, 1855, and on the next day, staked out a claim at Montrose, now the farm of George M. Wright. During that fall he was engaged in building a "townsite house," where Howard Lake is now. The following spring he pre-empted the land, which had been abandoned by the company, and afterwards sold it to Mr. Goodsell, and in 1864, took a homestead in Stockholm township, sold it in 1871, and in the fall, moved to his present home at Cochran's mills, north side of Cokato lake. Mr. Cochran has taken an active interest in all public matters, and has filled many local offices. Was a member of the second Board of County Commissioners. While serving in this capacity, he was chiefly instrumental in abolishing the custom of paying teachers in depreciated county orders, while the public school money was appropriated by county officials. He was united in marriage with Miss Jane P. Gleason, of Green Lake county, Wisconsin, on the 9th of May, 1859. This was the first marriage at Howard Lake, in the town of Victor. Their children are, Seymour E., Irvin E., Carrie, Mary, Morgan V., James T., Helen, Garnett, Oliver, and an infant not yet named.

LORENZO COFIELD, a native of Noble county, Ohio, was born on the 13th of July, 1849, and reared to agricultural pursuits in his native place till coming to Minnesota in 1867. He resided on a farm in Stockholm ten years before coming here. Then, in 1877, came to this place and opened the confectionery, grocery, flour and feed store which he still owns. Two years later he built a small grain house and commenced dealing in wheat, and in 1881, formed a partnership with C. A. Wright, of Howard Lake, and built an elevator with a capacity of twenty thousand bushels. Miss Emma Reed of this place became his wife in 1872. They have two children; James D. and Stillman L.

EDWIN H. FARNHAM is a native of Massachusetts and was born on the 7th of December, 1839, in a pleasant New England home, situated on the old Bunker Hill battle ground, and not twenty rods from the spot where the gallant Warren fell. During his early childhood, he removed with his parents to Peabody, where his father died when our subject was sixteen years of age. On the 19th of April, 1861, he enlisted in Ellsworth's Zouaves, was discharged after four months service, and re-enlisted in the Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, serving till the 20th of August, 1864, when he was discharged, and soon



after came to Minnesota. He located at Rockford and was engaged in teaching school. The winter of 1866-67, he resided in Chicago where he attended a law school. On the 4th of July, 1868, Mr. Purnham was married to Miss Mary Burnett, of Fort Covington, New York, and the following year returned to Minnesota and located at Delano. They were the first American family in Delano, and with the exception of a few months spent at Rockford, teaching school, remained there till 1874. Then came to this place where he has since resided and practiced his profession, having been admitted to the Bar in 1871. They have two children; Schmyle E. and Snsau M.

DAVID GRIFFITH was born near the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 6th of November, 1813. He removed to the city in 1842, remaining till 1857, when he came to Minnesota. He first took a claim on section twelve, Cokato township, but soon after removed to section thirty-four where he still resides. Has held the office of Justice of the Peace several terms. During the war, Mr. Griffith, who was over age, and his son Franklin, who was under age, were the only volunteers from Cokato. The former enlisted in the Mounted Rangers and served one year, and the latter in the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving two years. Miss Enoline Hinchman became his wife in 1841, the marriage taking place in Philadelphia. They have had three children; Franklin, the only one living, resides at home.

MAGNUS HOLMSTROM, a native of Sweden, was born on the 17th of September, 1838. Came to America in 1869, and for a short time attended school; then located at Hastings, Minnesota, remaining a year and a half; after which he was employed by R. B. Langdon on the railroad. Then, after spending six years in Minneapolis, he came to Cokato in 1878, and opened a large blacksmith shop, where he also keeps plows and farm machinery. Was appointed village Trustee in 1879, to fill a vacancy, and in 1881, elected to the same office. Mr. Holmstrom was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Christina, on the 25th of December, 1862. Of six children born to them, four are living; Charles A., Anna K., Louisa, and Clara E. Ewald and John both died in November, 1878, at Cokato.

MARTIN HENRE was born in Finland, in January, 1839. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and in the spring of 1865, came to America. Was one year engaged in the copper-mines of Michigan,

then four years in Hastings and Red Wing, in this State, and in the summer of 1870, came to Cokato and settled on section ten. In the spring of 1881, he moved to his present farm on section seventeen. Mr. Henre has a good English education and an extensive acquaintance throughout the county. Takes an active interest in the Finn church and also in public local affairs. Was elected Supervisor of Cokato in 1881. In 1869, he was married, at Red Wing, to Miss Anna Teberg, Three children have been born; John, Anna, and William.

LAUS A. HOCANSON is a native of Sweden, born on the 22d of April, 1837. He learned the profession of architect and civil engineer, which he followed for fifteen years. Came to America in June, 1869, and located at Lake City, Minnesota, remaining till that fall, when he removed to Pepin county, Wisconsin. Then, after a residence of a year and a half in the latter place, he went to Paxton, Illinois, where he took a course in the Swedish Theological Seminary, and in 1871, was ordained, and returned to Wisconsin, thence to Vista, Waseca county, Minnesota, where he had charge of a church, and remained till July, 1877. In 1862, he was married, in Sweden, to Miss Mary C. Johnson, who bore him five children; Hilda, Hannah, Hanny, Hilma, and Heeman. On the 20th of March, 1874, during high water and a washout, she and the youngest child, Heeman, were drowned. In April, 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Noling, of Rockford, Illinois. The result of this union has been three children; Hilda, Hegina, and Himulla. In 1877, he came to Cokato and has since had charge of the church at this place.

AUGUSTUS P. MOOERS was born in Kennebec county, Maine, on the 8th of April, 1835. He came west with his parents in 1852, by the way of Greenwood. Being among the first to come through, they were obliged to cut their own roads. Mr. Mooers was with the army of the Tennessee as photographer for five years; then, until 1869, was traveling in different portions of the country. In the latter year he returned to Minnesota and settled in this place, which has since been his home. He was the first to build a store at Cokato, but a Mr. Parcher put in a stock in another building a few months sooner than he. Mr. Mooers was engaged in the drug business for several years, and was appointed Register of Deeds to fill a vacancy caused by the removal of C. B. Jordan,





serving one year. He was united in marriage at St. Paul, in September, 1864, to Miss May Bruer, who died on the 16th of August, 1879.

JAMES H. McVEETY, Station agent at this place, was born in Canada, where he learned telegraphing. For three years, he had charge of the Commercial Telegraph Office at Bishop's Mills, in Canada, and afterwards was employed as book-keeper for a general merchandise store. Came to Minnesota in November, 1877, and has since been with this company, taking charge at this place in April, 1881.

DR. HENRY A. OLSTON, a native of Sweden, was born on the 22d of April, 1846. After graduating at a medical college in his native place, he came to America in 1871. Has since taken diplomas from the medical college at Keokuk, Iowa, and the New York State University. He practiced for three years in Iowa, six years in St. Paul, and in 1880, came to Cokato, where he has a large practice, and has gained an enviable reputation as a surgeon, having taken charge of several difficult cases, with successful results.

ANDREW B. PETERSON was born in Sweden, on the 7th of September, 1851. He came to America with his parents in 1860, they locating in Carver county, Minnesota, but removed to Stockholm in 1866. After the family settled in Stockholm, Andrew returned to Carver county and attended an Academy near Carver for three years. He then entered the store of A. P. Mooers, at Cokato, as clerk, and in 1873, became a partner, C. E. Lindberg also becoming a partner about the same time. In 1865, Mr. Mooers sold his interest to his partners, and in the fall of the same year, Mr. Peterson also retired. He next formed a partnership with John Paulson in the mercantile business, but sold out in the fall of 1876. He is now conducting a drug store, which he opened in 1880. Mr. Peterson represented his district in the State Legislature in 1876, and is now County Commissioner. He was married in May, 1878, to Miss Anna S. Anderson, of Minneapolis. They have one child, named Victor Nathaniel.

PETER STEVENSON was born on the 29th of February, 1840, in Sweden. When twenty-four years old, he came to America, located first in Carver county, Minnesota, remaining a year and a half, then in Minneapolis for a time, and afterwards on a farm in Stockholm. In 1876, in company with P. T. Nelson, he opened a general merchandise store in this place. Three years later, Mr. Stevenson bought

his partner's interest and is doing a large business. During the year 1880, he was Town Treasurer and also one of the village Trustees. Miss Kiser Nilson, of Sweden, became his wife on the 20th of November, 1864. Their children are, Christian, Betsey, Ludvick, Jennie, Emma, Ella, and Cecelia. Two died in infancy.

GARDNER O. TROW, a native of Dodge county, Wisconsin, dates his birth on the 19th of June, 1877. When he was young, his parents removed to Milwaukee, where his father died in 1849, the family remaining there till 1855, when they returned to Dodge county. In 1860, our subject entered the State University at Madison, remained till April, 1861, when he enlisted in the First Wisconsin Infantry, and at the expiration of his term, (three months) re-enlisted and served one year, both times as drummer. He again enlisted, this time as soldier, in the Seventh Wisconsin Battery, was transferred to Company A, of the Twelfth Iowa Infantry, and served till the fall of 1865. After his discharge, he came to Minnesota, purchased a farm in Mower county, and taught school in the adjoining district for three years. Then sold his farm and went to Albert Lea, and two years later, to Chicago, where he took two courses in the dental department of Rush Medical College. After practicing for a time at Lake Mills, Iowa, in 1874, he returned to this State, and for two and a half years was engaged in the hotel business at Kingston. Then came to Cokato, purchased A. P. Mooer's drug store, and has since practiced dentistry and had charge of the store, keeping drugs, groceries, etc. Was married at Lake Mills, Iowa, on the 16th of November, 1872, to Miss Abbie Baker. Their union has been blessed with two children; Gardner O. and Rhoda E.

BERGER THURSTENSON is a native of Norway, born on the 18th of September, 1840. In 1861, he came to America, was one year in Carver county, Minnesota, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company H, of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. On receiving his discharge, he returned to Carver county, remained a short time and was employed as foreman on work for the St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad. Then, after a residence at Smith Lake in this county, he came to Cokato in 1871, and the following year opened a hotel, which he operated till September, 1880. Has since devoted his time to commission business, real estate, and sale of emigrant tickets. Mr. Thurstenon was a member of



the first board of Village Commissioners. Was married in July, 1872, to Miss Julia Evanson, of Minneapolis. They have one child, Ludvig.

## CORINNA.

### CHAPTER CXXII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Corinna lies in the northwest portion of the county, and has an area of about 23,000 acres, 1,349 of which are under cultivation. The surface is undulating and generally covered with timber, except where removed for agricultural purposes. About 5,000 acres of the aggregate area is covered with water, the largest lake being Clearwater Lake, which lies in the northwestern part, extending into Stearns county, and is a popular summer resort. Octavius Longworth has a large and comfortable residence, surrounded by a number of summer cottages, light and airy, on the north bank of the lake. This place is visited each summer by a number of southern families and health seekers, whose systems are invigorated by the bracing draught from this beautiful expanse of water.

The first permanent settlement in this town was made in 1856, by Elijah Doble, Sen., now dead, John F. Doble, Lorenzo Doble, Elijah Doble, Jr., Ebenezer Perry, and Charles I. Dakin. These men were natives of Maine, and were accompanied by their families. They settled on sections eight, nine, and sixteen, on the north shore of Clearwater Lake, and were soon followed by others. The population has steadily increased, until the census of 1880 showed a population of 386 persons.

This town was embraced in Clearwater township until 1860, when a separate organization was effected, and the name of "Delhi" applied, but soon changed to "Corinna," because of a town in another portion of the State having previously adopted the same name. In addition to the present territory of Corinna, the present area of Southside was also included in the new town, but was reduced to its present limits on the organization of the latter in 1868. The first officers were: Supervisors, H. L. Gordon, Chairman, L. H. Dakin,

and Elijah Doble; Assessor, Charles M. Gordon; Collector, John F. Doble; Clerk, Octavius Longworth; Justices of the Peace, Edward Moody and Octavius Longworth; Overseer of the Poor, J. F. Gates; and Constables, Charles I. Dakin and J. F. Doble.

A town was laid out on section twenty-one, in 1857 or 1858, by George Saunders, A. McDonald, William McDonald, Charles I. Dakin, and E. Doble, and named Osseo. Some improvements were made, but it did not meet the expectations of the proprietors, and the enterprise was given up.

A steam saw mill was built in 1865, by David Heberling, on his farm in section nine. It was run for a few years and abandoned.

In 1867, a water-power saw mill was erected near Cedar Lake, on Clearwater creek, by L. H. Reynolds, of Illinois. It was leased and operated by David Heberling & Sons for a number of years, but was destroyed by fire some time ago.

Religious services were held by Rev. M. S. Harriman as early as 1857, although the first sermon preached was probably over the line in Stearns county, yet the congregation was largely composed of residents of Corinna township.

In 1859, Bartlett Blaine, a Methodist Minister, held meetings in the house of Lorenzo Doble. Services were held by that denomination in private dwellings and school houses until 1878, when the congregation erected a church just over the line in Southside township.

In 1871, through the instrumentality of Octavius Longworth, and Rev. D. B. Knickerbacker, of Minneapolis, a Protestant Episcopal Church was erected near Mr. Longworth's residence. It is a very pretty structure and was dedicated by Bishop Whipple in September, 1872. There has been no regular clergyman, but the pulpit is very often supplied by guests of Mr. Longworth and others.

There is also a German Methodist organization in this town. The first services were held by Rev. Mr. Mentz in 1864, at the residence of Martin Ransom. A church was built in 1875-76, on section nine.

Corinna is divided into four school districts. The first public school was held in the house of E. Doble, in 1862, the district then comprising the present towns of Corinna and Southside. The first school house was built in 1868. This was a primitive looking edifice, composed of round





logs, but was replaced by a neat frame building in 1871.

The products of this town, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 13,429 bushels; oats, 4,218 bushels; corn, 7,702 bushels; potatoes, 1,516 bushels; beans, 51 bushels; sugar cane, 1,815 gallons; cultivated hay, 158 tons; wild hay, 241 tons; tobacco, 136 pounds; wool, 350 pounds; butter, 9,321 pounds; and honey, 450 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

W. W. DAY, (deceased) a native of Milton, Vermont, was born on the 16th of October, 1822. When he was twelve years old, the family moved to Franklin county, New York, where he worked on his father's farm until twenty years of age, when he commenced to till the soil for himself on a neighboring farm. In 1854, he came to Minnesota, locating on a claim in Hennepin county, near Excelsior, where he lived for two years, when he moved to Silver Creek, Wright county, locating where the town site of Fremont was afterwards fixed. Here he and others built a steam saw-mill. In 1862, moved to the farm in section fourteen, Corinna, where he lived till his death, on the 8th of August, 1879. After this, his widow and son, Edwin C., conducted the farm. Edwin C. Day was born on the 15th of May, 1856, at Excelsior, Hennepin county, and has lived at home ever since.

LEVI H. DAKIN, one of the oldest residents of the town, was born in Nova Scotia on the 25th of December, 1830. When he was but three years old, the family moved to Aroostook county, Maine, where he worked on a farm till 1856, when he came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and from that place, walked to Clearwater, and soon after, came to Corinna township and took a claim on section twenty-one, living in a log house with a bark roof for some time. He soon commenced to improve his farm, and continued the effort till he sold it in 1865. During the Indian war, the family sought protection in Clearwater, where they remained for two years. After selling his farm, bought another in section twenty, to which he has since added as his circumstances have permitted. He was a member of the first board of Supervisors. Married Miss Clara J. Smith on the 29th of September, 1861. They have two children.

ANTHONY HENNEMAN, a native of Germany, was born on the 18th of December, 1838. At the age of thirteen, emigrated with his parents to America, and located on a farm in Jefferson county, Penn-

sylvania. At the age of twenty-two, commenced life for himself, being engaged in farming in Pennsylvania till 1869, when he came to Minnesota and located on section eleven in the town of Corinna, where he still resides. He married Miss Margaret Knorr on the 3d of March, 1861. They have twelve children.

JAMES HIGGINS, deceased, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York. While he lived in his native State, worked most of the time at lumbering. He came to Minnesota in 1863, and spent the first three years in the pinerics and on the river. He married Mrs. Amelia Higgins, of Clearwater, on the 31st of December, 1865, and the following year located on his farm in section thirty, Corinna township, where he lived till his death, October 5th, 1876. Mrs. Higgins has controlled the farm since the death of her husband.

DAVID HEBERLING, deceased, one of the early settlers of the town, was born in May, 1815, in Pennsylvania. He was engaged in lumbering, principally on Sandy creek, one of the tributaries of the Alleghany river, and at the same time carried on a farm. In 1865, he came to Minnesota, and bought land on the banks of Clearwater Lake, in section nine, where he engaged in farming; also built a steam saw mill, and run it for three or four years. He married Miss Susanna Rissinger on the 6th of March, 1836. They had ten children, eight of whom are living. He died on the 21st of May, 1871. His oldest son, Paul K., since a boy has been identified with his father in business. He was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, on the 20th of December, 1836, came to Minnesota with his parents in 1865, and lived on the farm since, being engaged in farming and the manufacture of lumber. He married Miss Esther Rissinger in 1860. They have one child, a boy.

JAMES K. POLK HEBERLING, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 22d of January, 1845. He lived with his parents in his native State, engaged in farming and lumbering till about twenty years of age. In 1865, came to Minnesota and lived for some years with his father. In 1867, commenced to manage business for himself on a portion of his father's farm, where he may yet be found, favored with success in his business operations. He married Miss Minnie Fettes on the 9th of April, 1868. They have four children.

ANDREW KUHNLEY was born in Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, on the 20th of February, 1832. At the age of nineteen, commenced to learn the cur-



penter trade in Clearfield county. After having become acquainted with the business, was employed in different parts of the State, making his native county his home until 1869, when he came to Minnesota. Some time during the same year, located on a farm in section fifteen, Corinna township, where he still lives. He has devoted a large portion of his time to his trade since residing in the town. He married Miss Anna C. Foss on the 10th of February, 1853. They have six children.

OCTAVIUS LONGWORTH, one of the earliest settlers of this town, is a son of David Longworth, of New York City, one of the largest book publishers of his day in America. Mr. Longworth was born in New York City, on the 22d of March, 1805. He received an academic education, and was engaged with his father in business for some years. Then for a time conducted the business alone, giving special attention to stationery, in which he continued till the financial crash in 1837. His residence was in that part of Brooklyn, embraced in Williamsburg prior to 1854. Soon after closing out his store he was appointed Postmaster of Williamsburg, by President Harrison in about 1840. In 1856, he moved to Iowa, locating near Davenport, making his home on a farm for three years. In 1859, he came to Minnesota, locating on the north bank of Clearwater lake, in this township. The home of his choice, on the banks of this beautiful lake, after twenty years of toil, commands the admiration of many tourists that visit this place. Mr. Longworth was the first Town Clerk, and the first Justice of the Peace. He was united in marriage with Miss Phebe D. Wade, of New Jersey, on the 30th of December, 1830. They have had eleven children; five boys and six girls, eight of whom are living.

JOSEPH MARVIN, a native of Onondaga county, New York, was born on the 9th of December, 1803. His father was one of the pioneers of that county, and died when his son Joseph was but nine months old. He lived on the farm with his mother and step father until twenty years of age, when he commenced to farm for himself in the neighborhood, which he continued about twenty years. In 1864, he moved to Michigan, and farmed in Calhoun county for one year, then opened a hotel in Evansville, Wisconsin, and in connection with his son, run it for a short time. In 1865, came to his present farm in section twelve, where he lives at this writing. He was united in marriage with Miss Maria Bently, on the 19th of

November, 1826, who died on the 6th of November, 1862. They had six children; four of whom are living.

JESSE MOATS was born in Ritchie county, West Virginia, on the 9th of May, 1821. At the age of twenty-six, he commenced working for himself on a farm, which he continued for seven years. Then moved to Athens county, Ohio, and lived on a farm for thirteen years. In 1867, he came to his farm in section twenty-nine, Corinna township, where he still resides. He married Miss Sarah Clutter, in October, 1847. She was a native of Pennsylvania, and died on the 2d of March, 1881. They had six children, five of whom are living.

MARTIN RANSOM, a native of Baden, Germany, was born in May, 1830. When he was ten years old, his father died. Martin lived on a farm until nineteen years of age; then emigrated to the United States, located near Albany, New York, and was employed on the railroad for several years. In 1858, he came to Minnesota, and after prospecting for some time in different parts of the State, located on a farm in section thirty, Corinna township, and the following year removed to his present farm in section twenty. He married Miss Wilhelmina Teatz, on the 21st of April, 1858. They have seven children.

JOHN P. SCHEYER, a native of Prussia, was born on the 7th of November, 1837. When John was about fifteen, his parents emigrated to America and located on a farm in Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Scheyer supported his parents and family, until the death of the former. In 1870, he moved to Missouri, and in a few months, to Minnesota, locating on a farm in section fourteen, Corinna township, which has been his home since. He has been Supervisor and Assessor of the town. Was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Reiter on the 23d of August, 1860. They have ten children.

JOHN TOWNSEND, one of the old settlers of this region, was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of April, 1818. At the age of twenty-one, he left his father's farm and went to Illinois, working in different parts of the State at the cabinet, carpenter, and wagon-making trades. He was also for a time in the employ of John Deere, the celebrated plow manufacturer. In 1851, he came with John Stevenson, to Clear Lake, Sherburne county, Minnesota, and were among the first settlers of that town. In 1855, he took a claim in Lynden, Stearns county, living there





short time; then moved to the present village of Clearwater, and built the first frame dwelling in the place. In a few months after this, took a claim on the prairie in the same town, where he lived till 1866, and then removed to a timber farm in this township. He is now living with his daughter, Mrs. Ponsford. Mr. Townsend was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Stevenson, of Sherburne county, in 1850. They have two living children.

IRA WINGET was born in Green county, Pennsylvania, on the 17th of March, 1834. When he was about thirteen years old, the family moved to Athens county, Ohio, where he attended school, and worked on his father's farm until 1855, when he engaged in a saw-mill enterprise in the same county, which he continued till 1860. He then moved to Missouri and at the commencement of the war, enlisted in Company B, in one of the Missouri State regiments, engaged in fighting the Guerrillas in the State until 1864, when he removed his family to Corinna township, Minnesota. Soon after arriving here, Mr. Winget enlisted in Company E, of the First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served to the close of the war. After returning from the army, he homesteaded the farm on which he has since resided in section thirty-two. He was united in marriage with Miss Phoebe Jane Chutter, on the 13th of December, 1855. They have had seven children, five of whom are living.

## CLEARWATER.

### CHAPTER OXXIII.

DESCRIPTION—CLEARWATER VILLAGE—FIRST THINGS  
—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—SOCIETIES—TOWN ORGANIZATION.

Clearwater is the most northern town in Wright county, and is separated from Sherburne county on the north, by the Mississippi river, while on the west the Clearwater river marks the line separating it from Stearns county. Silver Creek forms its eastern, and part of its southern boundary, the remaining portion being bounded by Corinna.

The surface is rolling, and in the northern part principally prairie, bordered by a narrow belt of timber skirting the river, while south it merges into brushland, beyond which is heavy timber land.

Numerous fine lakes are found throughout the town, and two of more considerable size make slight encroachments from the town of Corinna on the south. Some good meadow land is found in the southern portion, and along the Mississippi in the northern part. The soil in the prairie portion is a dark sandy loam with clay subsoil, and produces excellent crops; in the timber portion it is clay and dark loam, and is unsurpassed for fertility. The cultivated area of this town is proportionately greater than that of any other in the county.

While as yet few settlers had taken homes between here and St. Anthony, some hardy pioneers penetrated to this point, where they selected claims, and laid the foundation upon which has since been built an intelligent and prosperous community:

Foremost among the early settlers here was Selah Markham, a native of New York State, of whom further mention is made in the succeeding pages of this work. With him rests the honor—not only of being the first permanent settler here, but also prominently identified with the early history of the county. His claim was on section seven, where he built a cabin in the fall of 1854, which has since given place to his present comfortable rural home. John Oakes also located a claim here the same fall, boarding with Mr. Markham during the winter, and the following spring, building on his claim in section eight. Mr. Oakes was a native of Franklin county, Maine, born in 1798, and died in 1863. Asa White, another settler here in 1854, with others, staked out the town site of El Dorado, now Clearwater. Mr. White was at Clear Lake, opposite, as early as 1847, being then engaged in trading with the Indians. Thomas C. Porter came in the following spring, and took a claim near the present village of Clearwater, which has since been his home. A sketch of his life appears elsewhere. Among other early settlers of this year, (1855) were Dr. J. D. Wheelock, Simon Stevens, Horace Webster, and John Farwell, the first three of whom are hereafter mentioned. During the years 1855-56, many settlers were added, and a thriving community sprung up as if by magic.

CLEARWATER VILLAGE.—This enterprising village is pleasantly situated in the extreme northern part of Wright county, on the right bank of the Mississippi river, at the mouth of Clearwater river. Here Nature seems to have been in her kindest



mood, and just brushed back the bluffs which front the river, leaving a beautiful table of dry, almost level land on which the village is chiefly built. A small portion, however, including some of the public buildings, is on the more elevated plateau, back of the first level, while still another portion is on the west bank of Clearwater river, and in Stearns county. A portion of this site was claimed in 1855, by Asa White, A. Boyington, and others, and called El Dorado. During Mr. White's absence that season, the ground was claimed by Simon Stevens, Horace Webster, and John Farwell, and platted in the spring of 1856, by J. H. Talbott and Simon Stevens. These counter-claims led to quite a spirited contest, which, however, was amicably settled, the latter claimants retaining the land. It is now one of the leading villages of Wright county, having four general stores, two drug stores, one clothing and general miscellany, one hardware store, one boot and shoe store with shop, two millinery shops, one harness shop, three blacksmith and one wagon shops, one furniture factory, one flouring mill, one lumber mill, one livery stable, one hotel, a meat market, three churches—two Protestant and one Catholic—a Masonic lodge, and a graded school of three departments.

**FIRST THINGS.**—The first white woman to claim a residence in Clearwater, was Mrs. Abigail P. Camp, now Mrs. T. C. Porter, who came in August, 1855, in the capacity of housekeeper for the town site company. The next was Mrs. J. D. Wheelock, the same fall. Mrs. Wheelock died in the autumn of 1881, at the family residence in Clearwater.

The first white child born was Mary Whiting, a daughter of Mr. Newel Whiting, in 1857.

The first marriage ceremony in this vicinity was performed on the 2d of September, 1855, uniting the destinies of J. W. Stevenson and Emma Hunt, who are mentioned in the town history of Lynden.

Clearwater had neither a Justice of the Peace or minister at that date. J. W. Stevenson died in August, 1856, his death being the first in the town.

The first school effort was under direction of A. C. Powers, in the winter of 1857-58; the second, by Miss Harvey, afterwards the wife of Horatio Houlton, of Elk River, Sherburne county, the old building first used as a store serving as a school house. In 1860, a school building was erected—the first in the place. The building is now owned by the Catholic church, and stands on the hill, back of the village school house.

The first Physician was Dr. J. D. Wheelock, who

located in the autumn of 1855, and has since continued in practice.

A Post-office was established in 1855, and Simon Stevens commissioned Postmaster. In 1858, he was succeeded by W. W. Webster, and he by J. M. Brown in 1861, and he by H. L. Gordon. About two years later it passed to J. A. Stanton, then to J. E. Firté, and in 1873, Jed F. Fuller became Postmaster, and has since retained the office.

The first hotel was built in 1855 by Stevens, Webster, and Farwell, Mrs. A. P. Camp assuming the duties of hostess. In the spring of 1856, they sold the furniture and rented the house to Mr. Allen, the blacksmith. In 1857, Frank Morrison built the large hotel still in use, and known as the Morrison House. It has been under the management of different parties since its erection, and is now conducted by W. R. Blackburn.

The first representative of the legal profession was Willis G. Butler, who came in the spring of 1857. He was a delegate to the convention that placed Abraham Lincoln in nomination for his second term, and at one time took an active part in public affairs. He died here on the 13th of April, 1881.

Religious services were held as early as December, 1855, at the residence of Mr. Dow, near the village, by the Rev. Mr. Creighton, of Monticello, and in 1857, by Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, an Episcopal clergyman, in the hotel building first erected. Services were next held in a two-story building, the lower part of which was used as a store, and the upper part for schools, religious, and other public meetings.

A ferry was strung across the Mississippi at this point by Stevens, Talbott & Co., in the spring of 1856, which has since been in use. It has several times changed hands and is now owned by R. A. Lyons and Peter Lemme.

The first saw-mill was commenced in 1856, at the mouth of Clearwater river. When nearly ready to begin work, a freshet carried mill, dam, and everything away, and no further effort was made until the year following, when Herman Woodworth built a mill on the same stream, a mile above the former site, which was torn down and removed in 1876. A steam saw-mill was built on or near the site of that first mentioned, in 1858, by Frank Morrison, which in 1878 was removed to Motley, Morrison county.

A flouring mill was built in 1858, about eighty rods above the mouth of Clearwater river, by





Rogers and Mitchell. Ten years later it was torn down, and replaced by a larger one, under the proprietorship of Davis and Beale, who had previously purchased the mill property. Mr. Davis still retains the controlling interest in the property, the firm name being C. F. Davis & Co. The cheery ring of the anvil was heard in the summer of 1855, in a shop opened by Stevens, Webster & Farwell, who soon after sold to Mr. Allen, and he, in 1856, to George Fuller.

The first store was opened by Seth Gibbs and Newel Whiting, in 1856, in a building on the river bank near the ferry. The following spring W. T. Rigby opened another store, and in 1858, a third establishment was opened by S. A. Heard; soon followed by a fourth, by O. S. Lock.

In 1871, a good two story frame school house was erected on the upper table of the village plat, in which two, and a portion of the year, three departments are maintained. The organization of an independent district was effected not long since, and the schools are making commendable progress. Two other schools are maintained in the town outside the village, one located on section seven, and the other on section twenty-two.

#### CHURCHES.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH dates its existence from the 23d of January, 1858, when Rev. Levi Gleason held the first Methodist service in the village at that date, and organized a class of six members, and two probationers. James Lee was appointed Class leader, and Robert Lyons and Joseph Pratt, Stewards. The following named pastors have succeeded Mr. Gleason's first ministry, in the order given: B. Blaine, S. T. Sterrett, T. M. Berlin, L. Gleason, Moses S. Harri-man, C. T. Barkaloo, Rev. Mr. Roel, L. Gleason, C. T. Garvin, N. Lathrop, M. B. Smith, J. N. Henry, and L. P. Smith. A parsonage was purchased by the society here several years ago, and a neat church edifice was begun in the summer of 1881, which, at this writing, is still in process of construction.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH was organized on the 20th of April, 1859, with the following membership: Mr. and Mrs. Abel Kent, L. H. Holman and wife, H. Woodworth, and Nathan Walker, the latter being elected Deacon. The pastor was O. S. Senter. In 1860, Rev. Royal Twitchell, then pastor, took steps leading to the erection of a suitable house of worship, and work was soon after begun. In November the build-

ing was so far completed as to be used for holding the regular services, and on the 1st of May, 1861, it was completed and dedicated. Rev. William Crawford became pastor at this time, remaining one year, and in November, Rev. William B. Dodd was called to fill the pulpit, remaining till 1867. The following year Rev. J. G. D. Stearns assumed pastoral charge, remaining until 1876, then was succeeded by Rev. Nelson Clark, who was followed a year later by Rev. P. S. Smith. Mr. Smith closed his labors in July, 1881, since which time the pulpit has been vacant.

The officers of the church are: Deacons, Samuel Whiting, George Campbell, A. E. Oakes, and James Abel; Clerk, F. W. Webster. The present membership is about seventy-five.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH is represented by a partially organized membership of about twenty, and hold frequent services during the year, being supplied by missionary preachers.

The Catholics have a small membership in the vicinity, and a few years ago bought the old school building, which has since been partially fitted for service, and in it their meetings are held at irregular intervals.

SOCIETIES.—In August, 1858, a Masonic lodge was instituted, mention of which occurs in the town history of Lynden, Stearns county.

A lodge of Good Templars was organized in March, 1881, and is still active.

The Patrons of Husbandry were also well represented in times past, but are not now in existence.

TOWN ORGANIZATION.—Pursuant to an act of the Legislature relating to town organizations, the present territory embraced in Clearwater, with that since organized as Corrinna, was set apart by the County Commissioners, as the town of Clearwater, and a meeting held in the village of Clearwater on the 11th of May, 1858, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, J. D. Wheelock, Chairman, Hiram Woodworth, and Cyrus Smith; Clerk, Samuel Whiting; Assessor, John Townsend; Collector, J. H. Dunton; Justices of the Peace, J. D. Wheelock and Thomas Doble; Constables, A. H. Williams, and J. H. Dunton; Overseer of the Poor, Simon Stevens. On motion of Simon Stevens, a tax of \$150 was voted, to defray the town expenses for the ensuing year.

During the Indian troubles, a stockade was built in the village, where a number of families from the timber found friendly shelter during the days



of suspense and fear. No town was more prompt to respond to the call for volunteers during the War of the Rebellion, about sixty responding, and serving in the early Regiments. The present condition of the town is most cheering; good farms, good roads, good educational and religious privileges, a railroad almost completed, a thriving village; Clearwater stands among the foremost towns in the county, both in present attainments and future prospects.

The cultivated area of Clearwater township is 2,572 acres, and the products, according to the agricultural report for 1880, were: wheat, 18,544 bushels; oats, 9,335 bushels; corn, 22,005 bushels; barley, 18 bushels; rye, 440 bushels; potatoes, 3,890 bushels; beans, 39 bushels; sugar cane, 3,043 gallons; cultivated hay, 216 tons; wild hay, 1,689 tons; wool, 1,046 pounds; butter, 28,350 pounds; and honey, 50 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CHARLES H. BARRITT, a native of Franklin county, New York, was born on the 15th of June, 1854. His father was a farmer, to which business Charles gave his attention till twenty-four years of age, and then learned the harness business. He came to Clearwater in 1869, engaged in the harness business in 1878, and continues the same to this date. He married Miss Minnie P. Heath, of Sauk Centre, on the 21st of September, 1879. They have one child; Chester O., born June 12th, 1880.

GEORGE B. BENSON was born in Stowe, Lamoille county, Vermont, in the year 1824. He grew to manhood on the farm on which he was employed until thirty years of age. He was then engaged in the freighting business for five years, after which he came to Minnesota and resided in Minneapolis six months. In the spring of 1860, he came to Clearwater, and has identified himself with the progressive affairs of the town ever since. He owns and carries on a farm in Lynden, Stearns county, but resides in the village. Mr. Benson has been twice married; first to Miss Elizabeth Barrows, of Canada, in 1847, who died in August, 1870, leaving six children; Charles S., Ida A., Walter S., Cora M., George L., and Alice. His present wife was Miss Mary A. Tewksbury.

ALONZO T. BOYINGTON dates his birth in New York State, on the 23d of February, 1833. He was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native State, and when twenty years of age, went to Illinois and remained one year. He came to Clear-

water township in 1854, and selected a claim on sections one, two, eleven, and twelve. He is one of the earliest pioneers of the town, and has resided on the old homestead for twenty-seven years, while Minnesota has sprung from an obscure territory to a wealthy and populous State. Mr. Boyington was married on the 22d of March, 1857, to Miss Isabella R. Campbell, of Canada. Their children are, John E., Harriet F., Annie J., Amelia O., Ida J., Lettie E., and Mary A.

HUGH E. H. CAMPBELL is a native of Scotland, born in the year 1848. He learned the milling business in his native country, and came to America in 1869. He came at once to Clearwater, and has been engaged in milling here ever since. He was united in marriage with Miss Helen Hudek, of Maple Lake, on the 15th of September, 1880.

EDWIN P. CROSSMAN was born in Kennebec county, Maine, in the year 1852. He was reared on a farm, receiving such education as the schools of the vicinity afforded. When he was twenty years old, he went to Lynn, Massachusetts, and followed the shoe business for five years. In 1878, he came to Clearwater, and formed a partnership with S. M. Phillips, in a hardware and dry goods business. After a couple of years the partnership was dissolved and the stock divided, Mr. Crossman taking the hardware department, which he still carries on. He was married on the 18th of December, 1879, to Miss Mary Hall, of Stillwater. They have one child, named Arie, born on the 7th of March, 1881.

EDWARD CLOCKER, a native of England, was born on the 28th of December, 1830. He learned the blacksmith trade in youth, and emigrated to America in 1852, stopping for some time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Galena, Illinois. Then went to the copper mines on Lake Superior, where for five years he was engaged in mining. He then went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, for five years, and in 1868, came to Clearwater, where he now resides, working at his trade. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Davis in 1860. They have had two children, Catharine and Richard. His wife died in 1864.

D. S. DOXON was born in Franklin county, Vermont, in the year 1853. When eleven years old he commenced clerking in a dry goods store, which was his occupation until coming to Minnesota in 1871. The first summer was spent on a farm, after which he was engaged in a lumber office at Clearwater for three years, and in a flour-





ing mill for the next three years. He then went to Rochester, and after a year's stay there, returned and was employed in the flouring mill of Davis & Beal at this place until January, 1880, when he purchased Mr. Beal's interest, and is still a partner.

JOHN DODDS, a native of Michigan, was born in the year 1836. He commenced to work in a saw mill in early life. Came to Minnesota in 1866, engaging in lumber business in Clearwater, which he still continues. He married Miss Matilda Connick in 1872. They have three children; Della, Edward, and an infant not named.

JED F. FULLER was born in Milton, Chittenden county, Vermont, on the 10th of January, 1839. His father was a farmer and directed his son's early footsteps amid the routine of farming labors. At the age of sixteen, Jed F. engaged in mercantile trade, and clerked for two years. He came to Clearwater, Minnesota, on the 16th of June, 1857. His father had come the year before, with whom he lived till 1861, when he enlisted in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served about four years. In 1865, he returned to Clearwater, and engaged in mercantile business, which he has continued to this date. He has served the town as Supervisor and Assessor, and has held other local offices. Has been Postmaster since 1873. He married Miss Mary J. Northrup, of the state of New York, on the 19th of March, 1864. Their children are, Edna M., Leslie G., and Lester J., who are twins, and Marion L.

JAMES HIBBARD, a native of New York, was born in the year 1828. In 1850, he went to Canada, and farmed for seven years, then moved to Wright county, Minnesota, and located on a farm in Silver Creek township. After farming till 1874, he moved to Clearwater and engaged in the livery business, which he still continues. He married Miss Eveline Foster, and they have four children; Edgar, John, Jennette A., and Louisa.

WILLIAM J. KIRK, a native of Aroostook county, Maine, was born on the 28th of August, 1826, attaining manhood on a farm, and learning the harness making trade. In 1854, he went to Illinois, remaining one year; then went to Minneapolis Minnesota, for one year; then to Clearwater in the spring of 1856, engaging in the livery and carpenter business for two years, after which he engaged in the manufacture of harness till 1879. During this time he bought the ferry of J. F. Folbert, and controlled the same till 1880, when he sold it. He also owns a farm in Clear Lake,

Sherburne county, where he has lived for the last twelve years. He married Miss Amy Stevenson, of Clear Lake, in July, 1860. They have two children; William H. and Mary A.

SAMUEL KIRK, a native of Bangor, Maine, was born on the 16th of June, 1831. He was raised on a farm, and learned the harness making trade at Woodstock, New Brunswick, which he followed for eight years; then went to Wilmington, Will county, Illinois, where he worked at his trade for two years; then came to Clearwater, Minnesota, in 1856. Here he engaged in carpenter work and teaming for two years, and in 1858, engaged in farming, living in the village for one year, after which he moved to his farm in section eleven, where he now resides. He married Miss Maria Baskervill, of New York, on the 11th of July, 1859. Their children are, William J., Ella M. and Effie B., twins, and Samuel B.

ROBERT A. LYONS was born in Ohio, on the 22d of August, 1844. He came to Minnesota with his parents in 1856, who settled in Lynden, Stearns county. He worked on the farm until twenty years of age, and then for two years, was employed in the transportation business from St. Cloud to Fort Abercrombie, and the next five or six years were spent in running a ferry on the Mississippi river. In 1869, he moved his family from Lynden to Clearwater, and the next year, took the mail contract from Clearwater to Clear Lake, running a stage to connect with the trains. In 1880, he purchased and now owns a half interest in the ferry at Clearwater. Miss Louisa J. Meacham, of Howard Lake, became his wife on the 9th of May, 1872.

JAMES MAXWELL, deceased, was born in Scotland, in the year 1821. He emigrated to America in 1842, locating at Springfield, Otsego county, New York, for four years; then returned to Scotland for one year, after which he came to America, locating at Litchfield, Herkimer county, New York. He was employed on a farm there till 1857, when he came to Clearwater and bought a farm in section twenty-three. He married Miss Christina Connell, of Scotland, on the 18th of November 1849. Their children are, Mary A., Margaret A., Katie C., James A., Julia E., Lottie M., and Dena I. Mr. Maxwell died on the 4th of April 1872.

ISAAC E. MERRILL was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, in the year 1840. When he was a small boy, the family moved to Jefferson county, where he participated in the labors of the farm till he left the State. He came to Minnesota



in 1867, and located on a farm in section eleven, in the town of Clearwater, Wright county, where he still resides.

SELAH MARKHAM, a native of the state of New York, was born on the 9th of April, 1813. He grew to manhood on a farm, participating in its labors until 1838, when he went to McHenry county, Illinois, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits till 1854, and removed to Clearwater, Minnesota, taking a claim on section seven. He was the first to open a farm and build a house in the town, in the fall of the same year. In 1857, went to Cannon Falls, Goodhue county, remaining seven years; then returned to Clearwater, engaged in the manufacture of wagons, and adding a general blacksmith department, which he continued for some years. In the meantime he conducted a farm, to which he has given his entire attention since closing his shop. Mr. Markham was County Commissioner and Assessor before the town was organized. He married Miss Lucinda Luce, on the 25th of October, 1835. They have ten children; Homer, Ursula, Martha J., Manville, Anna E., Rozela L., Alfred, Willie, Minnie, and George L.

THOMAS C. PORTER was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of April, 1826. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, acquiring, in the meantime, the trade of shoemaker. When he was twenty-one years old, he went to St. Louis, Missouri, and after working at his trade a short time, embarked in a steamboat for the Upper Mississippi. Arriving at St. Paul, he started for Fort Garry with an ox-team, being thirty-five days on the road. He spent the winter with his brother, who had a trading post at that point, and the following June, returned to St. Paul. Went again to Fort Garry in the fall, and during that winter, (1848-49) was engaged in selling goods to the soldiers and others at the fort. In June, 1849, he went to Dakota Territory, and spent the summer trading with the Indians. Returning to St. Paul, he engaged in the transportation business between that place and Crow Wing, and in the winter of 1849-50, located at Little Falls, and was engaged in the lumber business there for two years. The next two years were spent in the transportation of goods from St. Paul to the upper country, and in 1853, he took a claim on section thirty-five, in the present town of Clear Lake, Sherburne county, being one of the pioneers of that locality. On the 8th of March, 1855, he selected the claim in Clearwater township, which has been his home ever

since, moving thereto the following year. Mr. Porter is one of the representative men of Wright county, and has held a number of county and town offices. He is now a member of the State Legislature. Mrs. Abigail P. Camp became his wife in the fall of 1856. They have one daughter, Maud J., born in 1862. Mrs. Porter was the first white woman to reside in Clearwater, being housekeeper at the Hotel, for the town-site company.

GEORGE O. PRATT was born in Afton, Chenango county, New York, on the 17th of May, 1843. He took an active part in the labors of the farm till he attained manhood. At the age of twenty, he enlisted in the Twenty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, serving about two years, when he was transferred to the Fifteenth New York Heavy Artillery, serving for two years more. After receiving his discharge, went to Michigan and farmed for about two years, then moved to Clearwater, Minnesota, and located on sections ten and fourteen, where he still resides. He married Miss Minerva Merrill, of Michigan, in April, 1866. Their children are, Clara, Jesse P., Bertha M., and Emile G.

HARRISON J. RANNEY, a native of Ashfield, Franklin county, Massachusetts, was born on the 4th of March, 1824. He was raised on a farm, following agricultural pursuits till twenty-five years of age. Then went to Arkansas, engaging in mercantile business for four years; then moved to Michigan, engaged in farming for four years, and in mercantile business for five years; then came to Clearwater, Minnesota, and has been in the employ of Samuel Whiting as a salesman ever since. He married Miss Helen McConnell on the 10th of January, 1856. They have three children; Frank H., born April 15th, 1857; Fred A., born May 29th, 1859; and Minnette, born March 13, 1861.

SIMON STEVENS, a native of Lower Canada, was born in May, 1827, where he resided, working on a farm till 1850, when he came to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The first winter he engaged in cutting wood on Nicollet Island, and the following summer farmed on the town site of Minneapolis, cutting hay where the Nicollet House now stands. The following winter was spent in the pineries on Rum river. In 1852, he, in company with Calvin Tuttle made a tour through some of the neighboring districts, and made a claim at the outlet of Lake Minnetonka. Here they built a saw mill,





and operated it jointly till 1854, when Mr. Stevens sold his interest to his partner, and worked for him the following year. In the spring of 1855, he came to Clearwater, and in company with Messrs. Webster and Farwell, pre-empted the land on which the village of Clearwater now stands; built a log house, platted the village, kept the first hotel, and burned the first lime kiln in the town. In 1858, he moved to his present farm on section thirty-five, and has lived here ever since. He married Miss Kate C. Cole, of Canada, on the 24th of December, 1857. They have had four children, but two of whom are living; Henry A., born on the 6th of March, 1858, and Charles M., born on the 8th of July, 1861.

ROBERT SHAW was born in Ohio, on the 16th of October, 1836. He learned the shoemaking trade in youth, and came to Clearwater, Minnesota, in 1857. He has been employed at his trade and controlled a general boot and shoe establishment ever since. He married Miss Sarah J. Johnson, of Ohio, on the 16th of August, 1856. They have one child, Willis A., born on the 6th of February, 1860.

CYRUS SMITH, a native of Wayne county, New York, was born in the year 1830. His father was a merchant, and Cyrus helped in the store till he left his native State, on the 6th of May, 1856. Mr. Smith came to Clearwater, Minnesota, soon after leaving New York, and located on sections twenty-one and twenty-two, in Clearwater town, and still resides on the old homestead. He was one of the first to settle in the town, and has been a member of the board of Supervisors most of the time since. He married Miss Sarah W. Longworth on the 23d of August, 1860. They have four children; Frank L., Mary L., Caroline C., and Octavia L.

LEROY SHAW was born in Washington county, Minnesota, in the year 1856. His father, James Shaw, came to Clearwater in 1857, and located on a farm in section eight, and followed farming till his death in 1875. His son Leroy has come into possession of the old farm, and lives there at present.

SEYMOUR SMITH, a native of Lower Canada, was born on the 24th of December, 1829. He attained manhood on a farm with his parents, and engaged in mercantile business for five years prior to leaving his native country. He came to Clearwater, Minnesota, in 1857; conducted a farm one year; then went to Neenah, now St. Augusta,

Stearns county, for one year; thence to Clear Lake, Sherburne county, for two years; then, in 1861, returned to Clearwater, where he has since lived on section seven. He married Miss Elizabeth Biggerstaff, in 1861. They have three children; Jennie C., Mary H., and Hellen E.

PHILIP SCHWAB, a native of Germany, was born in the year 1830. He emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1834, locating in Pennsylvania. At the age of twenty, he went to New Orleans, engaged in a tan-yard one year; then to St. Louis, Missouri, in a drug store for two years. He then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and was engaged in varied callings till the Rebellion broke out, when he enlisted in the Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. After receiving his discharge, came to Rockford, Wright county, and was in the mercantile business for two years; thence to Minneapolis one year; thence to Clearwater, and engaged in the grocery trade for seven years, when he engaged in the drug business, which he still continues. He married Miss Mattie Heberling on the 9th of October, 1869. They have four children; Lizzie M., Charles D., Edward P., and William G.

WILLIAM VORSE, a native of the state of New York, was born in October, 1808. He was one of the early settlers of Clearwater, coming in 1855, and locating on Fish creek, in section seven, where he lived six years. He then moved to the village of Clearwater, and engaged in the manufacture of wagons, having learned the trade in youth. He married Miss Lois Heart, of Westfield, Massachusetts. They have one son; Charles H.

CHARLES H. VORSE was born in Illinois, on the 24th of March, 1846. At the age of sixteen, he enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. After being discharged, learned the wagon-making business, which he continues to follow. He has had a shop of his own for the last three years. Married Miss Ella Borgenrief December 25th, 1869. They have two children; Lois M. and Nellie.

WILLIAM W. WEBSTER was born in Canada East, in April, 1832. He was engaged in farming and merchandising prior to coming to Minnesota, in 1857. He then came to Clearwater, and worked one year for the town-site company; then clerked in a store and dealt in cattle and lumber till 1861, when he went to St. Anthony as agent for the Freight and Transportation company for some time. He then enlisted in the Third Minnesota



Volunteer Infantry, serving till December, 1864. Then returned to Clearwater, and was out of business for about two years on account of ill-health; then clerked for some time, and has since conducted a general store on his own account. He married Miss Melvina Woodworth in September, 1861. They had two children; William F. and Charles H. His wife died in the fall of 1868, and he married Miss Lucy C. Walker, in August, 1872. They have two children; Wallace and Anna L.

JARED D. WHEELOCK, a native of Montpelier, Washington county, Vermont, was born on the 28th of September, 1820. He received his early education at home, and subsequently attended lectures at the Medical College at Woodstock, Vermont. He commenced the practice of medicine at Greensboro', in 1843, where he continued for two years; then went to Stowe and practiced till 1855, when he moved to Clearwater, Minnesota, taking a claim on sections one and two, where he engaged in farming and practicing. He was the first physician in Wright county; the first Justice of the Peace in the township; and also Chairman of the first board of Supervisors; Town Treasurer at the same time, and long a member of the School Board. During the war, was Surgeon of the board of enrollment of the second district of Minnesota, having his headquarters at St. Paul. He married Miss Mary Robinson, of Stowe, Vermont, on the 18th of January, 1845. They have two children; Isabel M., born on the 17th of November, 1849, and Fannie L., born on the 3d of January, 1864.

HORACE WEBSTER, a native of Canada East, was born on the 6th of July, 1828. In 1849, he came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and engaged in lumbering for two years. In the spring of 1852, went with Simon Stevens to Minnetonka, and thence to Clearwater and assisted in platting the village, building a hotel, etc. In 1857, located on sections one and twelve, where he still resides. He married Miss Marinda Pease, in 1854. They have three children; Mary M., George N., and Fred.

ISAAC WHITNEY was born in Canada, on the 9th of March, 1830. He went to Franklin county, Vermont, when a young man, learned the blacksmith trade, and worked at the business till 1880, when he moved to Clearwater, Minnesota, where he continues his chosen business. He was one year in the Twelfth Vermont Regiment during the war. He married Miss Julia Draper, of Sheldon, Vermont, on the 26th of December, 1859. They have three children; Levi R., Lucy C., and Flora M.

WILLIAM P. WEST, a native of Lewis county, Kentucky, was born on the 23d of October, 1842. At the age of thirteen, the family moved to Pope county, Illinois. In the spring of 1862, William enlisted in the Sixty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving four years. In 1866, he went to Washington county, Illinois, and was engaged in farming two years; then in 1868, moved to Lynden, Stearns county, and took a homestead on section eight, where he lived till 1876, when he sold out and came to Clearwater, locating on section fifteen. He married Miss Martha J. Moore, of Jefferson county, Illinois, on the 24th of May, 1866. Their children are, Frank A., Annie M., Harry C., Rose, and Walter G.

## FRANKFORT.

### CHAPTER CXXIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — SCHOOLS — RELIGIOUS — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the eastern portion of the county, and has an area of about 28,000 acres, 3,693 being under cultivation. Along the Crow river, which forms the eastern boundary, the surface is quite broken, and the soil light and sandy, but the interior of the township is quite productive.

The first permanent settler in this town was Thomas Dean, a native of New Brunswick, who settled on his present farm in section nine in July, 1854. He was followed the next year by Henry Aydt, a native of Germany, who settled on section thirteen and still lives there. James Dixon, a native of Ireland, also came in the spring of the latter year and settled on his present farm in section thirty-two.

William Elliot settled on section twenty in the spring of 1856, and was soon followed by others. Many Americans were among the first settlers, but the last twenty years have witnessed the arrival of a large number of Germans, the majority now being of that nationality. The population, according to the last census, was 868 persons.

The little village of St. Michael's is situated at the corners of sections eleven, twelve, thirteen, and fourteen, and contains one church, hotel, blacksmith shop, two stores, schools, etc.





There is also a little village, called Hanover, in section thirty-six, in the southeast corner of the township. It is on Crow river, and has a saw mill, hotel, blacksmith shop, and general store.

The town was organized and the first election held on the 11th of May, 1859, but the first town records were not preserved, thus rendering it impossible to give, with any degree of accuracy, the early political events.

The township is divided into five school districts, with a neat school house in each. There is also a religious school at St. Michael's, taught by the Sisters of Charity.

The agricultural products of Frankfort, according to the report of 1880, were: wheat, 40,472 bushels; oats, 22,278 bushels; corn, 23,496 bushels; barley, 641 bushels; rye, 10 bushels; potatoes, 8,223 bushels; cultivated hay, 148 tons; wild hay 1,465 tons; wool, 2,877 pounds, and butter, 16,700 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANK T. AYDT is a native of Baden, Germany, born on the 18th of December, 1840. His father came to America in 1850, and the family, the following year. They located in Minnesota, and in 1865, came to Frankfort. Finally, our subject started in general merchandise business in St. Michael's, and has a stock of about \$3,000. Owns four and a half acres in the village and two hundred just outside. He has been a member of the board of Supervisors, and for fourteen years has been Postmaster. Mr. Aydt was united in marriage with Miss Mary Engel, a native of Wurttemberg, Germany. They have had eleven children; nine are living, six girls and three boys.

JAMES DIXON was born in Ireland, in March, 1823. His mother died when he was one year old, and at seventeen, he removed to Scotland, where he was employed on farms for about two years. Then, for three years, he was farming in England, and after visiting his native place a short time, he came, in April, 1855, to America. Was engaged in Westchester county, New York, for some time, and then came to Minnesota; pre-empted land in Frankfort on section thirty-two, and at present has over five hundred acres of land, on which is his residence. Miss Sarah Cochran, his wife, was born on the 5th of October, 1833, in Ireland, where she resided until coming to America, in 1817, the marriage taking place in 1854. They have seven children; Mary, John, Thomas, Elizabeth, William James, Andrew, and Robert.

The oldest daughter is married to John Forsythe, and resides in this place.

THOMAS DEAN, probably the first settler of this town, is a native of New Brunswick. He was engaged in his native place in farming and the lumber business until the first of July, 1854, when he came to Minnesota and on the 20th of the same month, to his present farm, which was then in a wild state, but is now under good cultivation. On the 1st of November, 1857, he was married to Miss Lavinia Weaver, who is also a native of New Brunswick. Of seven children born to them, five are living. His oldest son, James Alfred, is married and lives on part of his father's farm.

WILLIAM ELLIOTT was born in the northern part of Ireland, on the 11th of March, 1834. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1852, when he came to America. Resided for two years in Orleans county, New York, and after traveling for about the same length of time, came to Minnesota in April, 1856, and the following August, purchased his present farm, but did not settle on it till 1858. In September, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, of the first Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served one year. Mr. Elliott had a brother who enlisted and was discharged the same time with himself, and another who was killed at the battle of The Wilderness after a service of two years. Was married in 1855, to Miss Anna Gallihier, of Ireland. They have had three children; two are living, William James and John.

JOHN FORSYTHE was born in St. Johns, New Brunswick, in 1846. At the age of fifteen years, he removed to Boston, Massachusetts, and to Chicago, Illinois, in 1866, thence to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he remained until coming to Minnesota in 1869. Was for a time in St. Paul, then in Minneapolis, engaged in the lumber business. He came to Frankfort in 1870, and the following year purchased his present farm, and since 1874, has resided here. Mr. Forsythe served a few months in the Government Artillery at Boston, during the Rebellion. Was married to Miss Mary L. Dixon in 1873. They have a family of three girls and one boy.

PETER HOLLAND is a native of Ireland, born in 1827. At the age of twenty-two years, he came to America, located in New Orleans, where he remained till 1855, and came to Minnesota. He was employed for several years by Frank Weizel in building a dam in Dayton, Hennepin county. In 1865, he came to Frankfort and located his pres-



ent farm. Mr. Holland was united in marriage with Miss Ann Conners, of Ireland, the ceremony taking place in the state of Illinois. In March, 1870, his wife died. Of seven children born to them, five are living.

VALENTINE HERMAN, a native of Germany, was born on the 14th of September, 1823. Came to America in 1853, and for a few years was engaged at his trade, that of blacksmith, in Canada. Located his present farm in 1856 or '57, the railroad from Minneapolis to Clearwater running through it. Miss Bertha Hardt, of Germany, became his wife in 1857. They have one adopted son, named Henry.

JOHN WALLACE McRAW was born in 1826, in the province of New Brunswick, where he resided until twenty-five years of age. Then, after a residence of about five years in Maine, came to Minnesota in 1856. Was engaged in the lumber business at St. Anthony until 1861, when he came to his present farm in Frankfort township. In 1849, he was married to Miss Margery Green, of New Brunswick. She died on the 2d of July, 1866. They had six children, four of whom are living.

TRAFTON G. RICKER, a native of Waldo county, Maine, was born on the 31st of December, 1833. In 1861, he enlisted in Company G, of the Ninth Maine Volunteers, and served three years and ten months. Was wounded while in service, for which he draws a pension. After his discharge he returned to Maine, where he was married to Miss Elizabeth J. Sturtevant. In 1870, they came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in March of the following year, his wife died. They had three children, two of whom are living. In 1873, he came to Frankfort township, and has since resided on a farm. Was married to his present wife, Mrs. Catharine M. Johnson, on the 23d of December, 1872. Her father, now ninety-four years of age, lives on a farm adjoining her own home.

## FRENCH LAKE.

### CHAPTER CXXV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—RELIGIOUS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

French Lake lies on the west line of the county, and in the northwestern part. It has an area of

23,040 acres, 1,714 being under cultivation. The surface is undulating and generally covered with timber, the soil being a rich dark loam.

The first permanent settler in this town was Ernest Howard, a native of Belgium, who settled here in 1857, and still resides here, his home being on section fifteen. Andrew McDonald, a native of Nova Scotia, settled on his present farm in 1858. Michael C. O'Donohue settled on section ten about the same time and still lives there. According to the census of 1880, 589 persons resided in the town.

The first child born in the township was a boy named John Howard.

The first death was John Kean. He died in 1862, and was buried in the cemetery at St. Michael's in Frankfort township.

The first school taught in the town was in 1867, by Peter McCormick, now of Minneapolis. This was in district No. 64, the first organized in the town.

The first religious services were held in 1861, by a Catholic priest at the residence of Michael O'Laughlin. The St. Ignatius Church was organized in 1874, and a house of worship erected soon after. Father Schaller held the first mass in the church in 1875, and it is now in charge of Father Robert, who resides in Chatham township.

French Lake was organized in 1865, and the first election held at the house of M. L. O'Laughlin. The officers chosen were: Supervisors, Michael O'Shea, Chairman, Patrick Kennedy, and Michael O'Laughlin; Clerk, M. L. O'Laughlin; Justices of the Peace, Patrick Kennedy and M. C. O'Donohue; and Treasurer, Michael O'Laughlin.

The agricultural report of 1880 furnishes the following as the products of the town: wheat, 26,351 bushels; oats, 5,804 bushels; corn, 8,455 bushels; barley, 20 bushels; buckwheat, 30 bushels; potatoes, 3,180 bushels; beans, 10 bushels; sugar-cane, 1,051 gallons; cultivated hay, 41 tons; wild hay, 1,303 tons; wool, 847 pounds; butter, 12,127 pounds; and honey, 215 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

DAVID DYKEMAN, a native of Otsego county, New York, was born on the 12th of April, 1838. When about three years old his mother died. His father came to Wright county, Minnesota, in 1867, and soon after, died in French Lake township. David grew to manhood on a farm in his native State, where he enlisted in Company D, of the





Third New York Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Murphy; was in the battle of Goldsborough, North Carolina, Wilmington, in front of Petersburg for seven months; and at Reems Station, Virginia, where he was wounded slightly in the leg; was mustered out of service at Norfolk, Virginia, in March, 1865. Then returned to his native place, and soon after moved to Albion, Wright county, and located on a farm, in the fall of 1865, where he lived until 1869, when he moved to his present farm in section twenty-four, French Lake township. He started a general store in the spring of 1880, which he carries on in connection with his farm. He was married on the 4th of July, 1859, to Miss Elizabeth Foster, who is a native of England. They have five children living; one girl and four boys.

A. D. KINGSLEY was born in Washington county, New York, on the 2d of July, 1830. Soon after his birth, the family removed to the western part of the State, where the subject of our sketch received a common school education, then attended the Aurora Academy, near Buffalo, New York, for three terms. Then taught school for three years, after which he came to Washington county, Minnesota, and engaged in the mercantile business for three years at Lakeland, in the same county. He came to Wright county soon after, and resided near Waverly, where he built the Waverly mill in company with Frank Fowler, which he ran for nine years. Then engaged in the mercantile business in Minneapolis, for some time, and afterwards run a mill near Anoka for a while. He came to French Lake in 1877, where he kept a store near the French Lake Post-office, until removing to his present farm in section twenty-two, in 1879. Mr. Kingsley has a saw mill on his place, and produces a large amount of lumber annually. He is one of the leading men of the township, and is now Justice of the Peace. He has been twice married; first to Miss E. Dustin in 1856, who died in 1871. His present wife was Mrs. Matilda De Long, to whom he was married in 1878. Mr. Kingsley has a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters.

ANDREW MACDONALD, a native of Nova Scotia, was born on the 27th of May, 1828, where he lived on a farm, and attended school till about twenty-two years of age. Came to Massachusetts in 1851, and was in various occupations until 1855, when he was employed on the steamboat Bay State as third Mate, and afterwards on the steamboat Me-

tropolis. In 1856, he came to Minnesota and engaged in the lumber business in Minneapolis; and in 1858, moved to his present farm in section twenty-four, French Lake township. He enlisted in Company C, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, on the 12th of May, 1864; was in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Knoxville, and Nashville, and was mustered out of service at Louisville, Kentucky, on the 18th of August, 1865, when he returned to his farm in this township. He has held the office of Supervisor several terms. He was joined in marriage with Miss Margaret Ives, also a native of Nova Scotia, in the year 1859. They have three children; William D., Charles F., and Laura E.

DANIEL McDONALD was also born in Nova Scotia, on the 11th of April, 1833, where he grew to manhood, engaging in agricultural pursuits. He came to Machias, Maine, when about eighteen years of age, where he engaged in the lumber business. Came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1865, and was employed in the pineries and saw mills till the breaking out of the Rebellion. He enlisted at Fort Snelling on the 22d of September, 1864, in Company C, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; was in the battle at Bentonville, South Carolina; on Sherman's famous "March to the Sea;" and finally sent to the hospital at New York, on account of disability, from which place he was discharged. Then returned to his farm in French Lake, which he had procured before going to the war, and where he still resides. He married Miss Mary Rakier, a native of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, in the year 1869. They have five children, two boys and three girls.

## MAPLE LAKE.

### CHAPTER CXXVI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—POST OFFICE—FIRST THINGS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—ORGANIZATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Maple Lake lies a little north of the center of the county, and has an area of about 23,040 acres, 1,769 being under cultivation. The population, according to the census of 1880, was 576 persons.

The surface is undulating and was originally well timbered, but a large portion of it has been



removed for purposes of improvement. The soil is a rich dark loam and very deep, except a small tract in the northeast corner which is more sandy, but yet, produces good crops.

There are a large number of lakes, the largest of which is Maple Lake, from which the town derives its name; it is situated in the central part. Silver creek runs in a northeasterly direction across the northwest corner of the town, and in its bottoms are found some fine hay meadows. Mill creek rises in the southern part of the town and flows south through Chatham into Buffalo Lake.

The first settlers in this town were E. B. McCord, Dr. Sargent, Joseph Rackliff, and the Hamiltons. These came in the summer and fall of 1856, and settled near the banks of Maple Lake. Of these pioneers, Mr. Rackliff's family are the only remaining residents. Other early settlers were the Kotilinek and Meyer families, who settled in the north part in 1857, and later, the Flaherty and Welton families in the southwest part, near Lake Ramsey.

A Post-office was established in 1858, and E. B. McCord appointed Postmaster. There was then a weekly mail from Monticello to Forest City which supplied this office. Mr. McCord was succeeded by Joseph Rackliff, William G. McCrory, and A. Gardner, then Mr. Rackliff was again Postmaster for a time, and in 1877, Patrick Butler assumed the duties and is the present incumbent.

The first birth was a son of Guy Hamilton, in 1856. The first death was Patrick Kline, in the fall of 1857. The first marriage was William E. Peters and Miss Mary White, in 1862.

The first school was taught by E. B. McCord in the house of Joseph Rackliff, in the winter of 1861-62. The town is now divided into five school districts, with a comfortable school building in each.

Religious services were held by the Catholics just east of the town line, in Monticello, at the residence of P. and J. Desmond, as early as 1859. A church was built by this congregation on section thirty-five, in 1867, and a priest appointed to supply this place and Chatham; but a parish house is now being erected and a priest has been appointed to take charge of the congregation.

A Protestant Sabbath school was organized in an early day by William G. McCrory. Revs. M. Harriman and A. K. Fox were among the first to preach in the settlement, holding services as early as 1862. There are very few Protestants now re-

siding in the town and no services have been held for a number of years.

Maple Lake was organized in 1858, but the first town records have not been preserved. A partial list of the first officers are: Supervisors, E. B. McCord, Chairman, ——— Hawley, and William Hartford; and Clerk, Dr. Sargent.

The agricultural products of Maple Lake, according to the report of 1880, were: wheat, 26,351 bushels; oats, 5,804 bushels; corn, 8,485 bushels; potatoes, 7,330 bushels; beans, 105 bushels; sugar-cane, 2,068 gallons; cultivated hay, 72 tons; wild hay, 2,077 tons; tobacco, 1,807 pounds; wool, 1,760 pounds; butter, 14,100 pounds; and honey, 100 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

BRYCE CONNICK, one of the early settlers of Maple Lake, was born in New Brunswick, on the 29th of March, 1831. In 1856, he came to New York, thence to Minnesota, where he was engaged in lumbering on the Mississippi, Snake, and St. Croix rivers until 1861, when he took a homestead claim on section thirty in this town. In May, 1861, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Infantry, and is well remembered by his old associates for his bravery. Was for a time with Anson Northrup in charge of the wagon train at Edwards Ferry, on the Potomac, and was injured by a fall, which nearly cost him his life and from which he has never wholly recovered. In 1863, he was discharged, and after spending some time with his father in Canada, being under medical treatment, he returned to Minnesota, and soon after, to his claim, which he found "jumped." A contest followed in which Mr. Connick was victor, and all his legal rights restored. He was married at St. Anthony, on the 28th of June, 1866, to Miss Sarah Claxton. Their children are, George, Eva, Earnest, Joseph, Jerry, Albert, and Elmer.

F. J. McINERNEY was born in Canada West, on the 4th of July, 1857. Received a good schooling in his native place, and in 1868, came to Minnesota locating at Lake City. He soon after removed to Davenport, Iowa, where he served as an apprentice at the carpenter's trade for a few years, then returned to Lake City and was employed at his trade two years. After living in Swift county about a year, he came to Monticello in 1877, and thence to this place. In 1880, he returned to Lake City, remaining till February of the following year, when he again came to Maple Lake and has since been engaged at his trade.





JOSEPH RACKLIFF, deceased, was born in Unity, Maine, on the 5th of December, 1822. In 1855, he came west, remained in Michigan six months and came to Minnesota, spending the summer at Monticello and coming to Maple Lake in the fall. He took a claim on section thirty-five, and for some time was engaged in the hotel business. Mr. Rackliff was one of the organizers of the town, and an active member of society, ever prominent in all matters pertaining to the public good. His house was always open to ministers, who still cherish kindly memories of him and his estimable wife. In August, 1864, he enlisted in the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, served ten months and was discharged on account of ill health. Was married to Miss Mary Wludden, of Maine, on the 20th of December, 1850. Their children are, Ambrose, Edwin W., Frank M., and George W. All are at home with their mother. Mr. Rackliff died after a brief and painful illness on the 12th of February, 1876, and was buried at Monticello.

MRS. MARY SHEPHERD, whose maiden name was Mary Bosworth, is a native of Bradford, Pennsylvania, her birth dating the 20th of November, 1833. On the 28th of December, 1848, she married S. F. Shadduck, and five children were born to them; William F., Frank, Fred., Lela, and Charles. Her husband was a dissipated and negligent man and his desertion was followed by Mrs. Shadduck obtaining a divorce. Some time after receiving it, she was married to S. J. Shepherd, one of the early pioneers of Minnesota, with whom she lived happily and bore him one child, Iva May. For some time after the marriage, they lived in St. Cloud, and Mr. Shepherd was in the employ of the old Stage Company, after the establishment of the route to Fort Abercrombie. In 1869, the family removed to Maple Lake, where he had bought a farm, continuing on the road, however, two years longer. Mr. Shepherd built a comfortable home to which he was greatly attached, but failing health and finally, a partial sunstroke in 1877, caused him fits of despondency and something like derangement. This unhappy condition culminated in death by his own hand on the 13th of October, 1878. He left loving messages, and charged his wife to be kind to his child, to whom he was strongly attached. He was buried near the house, in a place of his own selection, and a neat marble slab marks his resting place. The widow, Iva May, and William F., live on the old homestead, which is carried on by the latter. Frank and Lela

are both married, Fred is clerk in a store at Clearwater, and Charles is sometimes at home, and at others, working elsewhere.

JOHN SCHEFCHIK was born in Bohemia, and came with his parents to America at the age of nine years. Lived at Blue Island, Illinois, for two years, then on a farm twenty-five miles from Chicago for nine years, and in the latter city the same length of time. Four years of his life in the city were spent in running an engine in a flouring mill, and the remainder, in various speculations. His father died in Chicago and his mother and one sister still reside there. The subject of our sketch came to Minnesota and settled on section twenty-six, Maple Lake township, in 1870, and has since divided his time between farming and dealing in live stock, principally horses and cattle. He is a leading man among the Bohemians and a substantial citizen. Has been Supervisor for the last seven years, besides holding other local offices. Miss Anna Hudik became his wife in the autumn of 1860. They have nine children; Mary, Anna, George, Rose, Lizzie, Maggie, Josephine, and Emma. Albert, their first born, died at the age of two years.

WILLIAM H. WHITNEY was born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, on the 16th of January, 1840. Came with his parents to Minnesota and located in Monticello, where his father died in the spring of 1879. Our subject has owned three different farms on Monticello prairie, his parents living with him most of the time till about four years ago. Has visited his native place several times, but prefers the West for a home. His farm, which he purchased in 1877, is located on section three, Maple Lake township. Mr. Whitney makes a specialty of amber cane, both raising and manufacturing the same, for which he has one of the best outfits in this region. In March, 1864, Miss Mary J. McCurdy became his wife, the ceremony taking place at Monticello. Their children are, George, Joseph H., Frank, Sarah H., and Merrill.

## MARYSVILLE.

### CHAPTER CXXVII.

DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—VILLAGE OF WAVERLY—SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES—POST-OFFICE—WAVERLY MILLS—MONTROSE VILLAGE—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Marysville is one of the interior towns of Wright



county, lying south of Chatham, and joining the towns of Rockford and Franklin east, Woodland south, and Middleville west, which completes its boundary.

Its surface is rolling, and well timbered, with an average amount of meadow land, principally along its streams, or bordering its lakes. It is watered by several streams, the principal of which is the North Fork of the Crow river, which enters from the west near the northwest corner, and pursuing an irregular course, crosses the eastern boundary near its centre. It has several tributaries, one of which furnishes an outlet for Waverly and Little Waverly lakes, and one flows from Buffalo, through a chain of smaller lakes, and joins the Crow river in section thirteen.

Waverly and Little Waverly lakes are the largest bodies of water wholly within the town, and form an immense reservoir for the mills now owned by C. W. Bonniwell. In Little Waverly lake are two floating islands, one containing nearly an acre, which have interested many visitors. Buffalo lake makes a slight indentation from the north, besides which several lesser bodies are found throughout the interior.

The first demonstrations here in the way of settlement, were made as early as 1855. Among the earliest of these were Messrs. Felt and Labo, who located in the fall of that year, on section twenty-one, near the present crossing on Crow river, where they laid out a city called Marysville, from which the town afterward took its name. Their sojourn here was brief, as was also the imaginary city of which they were the founders. The names of Plouder and Roberts also figure in history in connection with this town site, some naming them as the first projectors of the scheme. [The first names and dates are furnished by Mr. M. V. Cochran, now proprietor of Cochran's mill in the town of Cokato, and are without doubt the best authority yet furnished.] Samuel G. Kriedler is also named as one of the settlers of that year, who took a claim on section twenty-four. The Dustin family, A. D. Kingsley, Deacon Caldwell, and others, also came about this time. In 1860, George M. Wright settled within the present limits of Montrose village, and in the succeeding years others were added, until quite a colony occupied the lands so recently unvisited by white men.

The first school of which we have any record, was about 1859 or '60, near the present village of Montrose, though one may have been kept at Waverly

Mills before that date. None of the first settlers are now living there, and tradition is sadly meager and conflicting.

**WAVERLY VILLAGE.**—With the completion of the railroad to this point in 1869, a station was established on section thirty-three, and formed the nucleus for the present thriving village. Trains were running here as early as June, but the books show the first entry dating September 16th 1869. George Doerfler was the first agent, and held the position till November 13th, 1872, when he was succeeded by L. V. Kyte, the present genial and efficient incumbent. A telegraph office was added February 12th, 1873, since which time Mr. Kyte has had an assistant.

The first trader here was Thomas Barrett, who opened a small stock of goods upon the completion of the road to this point, but soon lost all by fire. George Doerfler also opened a small stock about the same time, but the first full stock was put in by Patrick Fallihee in July, 1870. Mr. Fallihee still continues the business, having lately admitted his son J. W., forming the firm of P. and J. W. Fallihee. They have also a drug store, opened in the spring of 1881. Thomas Barrett built the first private residence here and afterward kept a small hotel. He died about two years ago, and the business is now conducted by his wife. Charles H. Morneau opened a hotel soon after the location of the village, and still continues it. He is one of the oldest settlers in the town, and has been Judge of Probate. Dr. C. L. Flannigan opened the first drug store here, which he still continues, enjoying a liberal patronage. Two other physicians are at present located here, Drs. O'Hair and Aubin. Other business houses are kept by John Flaherty, John Giblin, John O'Gorman, and J. K. Cullen, each keeping a general stock. Of these, the principal dealers are hereafter mentioned. There are also two blacksmith shops, two elevators, one by the Elevator company in 1872, and the other, built by C. A. Patterson, in 1880, a tin shop, a first-class harness shop, and four saloons.

Waverly village was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of 1881, and organized by electing the following officers: President, William Quinn; Trustees, L. V. Kyte, J. K. Cullen, and John Giblin; Recorder, C. H. Cullen; Treasurer, John O'Gorman.

A school district was formed in 1876, by a division of the old Waverly Mills district. Two departments are maintained in winter and one in





summer. A Catholic church was built here in 1872, during the building of which mass was celebrated at the residence of P. Fallisec. A small building at Waverly Mills, built about fifteen years ago, was the first Catholic church in this region, and was in use until numerical strength and local interests caused the village church to supplant it. The German element still favor the old church, and reluctantly submit to its non-recognition. A Catholic mission existed at the Mills as early as 1858.

Other churches in the town are: the French Catholic church, on section ten, built in the fall of 1868, and the Swedish Lutheran church, on section sixteen, built in 1873. The former includes about forty families in its membership, and formerly held monthly service, but are now without the regular services of a priest. The latter society was organized in 1872, with a membership of twenty-four, which has increased to sixty-nine. Service is held semi-monthly, and a parish school is maintained. Each of the churches named has its cemetery, besides which a cemetery is established on section twenty-four, deeded to the Methodist Episcopal society, by Daniel Kriedler, in 1872, with the prescribed condition that it should be free to all. The donor was the second interred within its limits, the first being his father-in-law, John Rowe.

POST OFFICE.—A Post-office was established at Waverly Mills on a date not ascertained, and there remained until the fall of 1870, when it was removed to the station, and T. R. Barrett became Postmaster. Soon after it was moved to its former place, remaining until mail was carried by the railroad company, when it was permanently located at the village, and Mrs. Kyte appointed Postmistress, which office she still retains. Mr. Kyte has just erected a building for a drug store, with Dr. C. L. Plannigan, in which the office is hereafter to be kept. Its location has thus far been in the railroad station. The Post office still bears the original name, Waverly Mills, though the village is Waverly.

WAVERLY MILLS.—Among the first events in the early history of Marysville, was the building of a dam at the outlet of Little Waverly lake, on section thirty-one, by "Deacon" Caldwell, and the erection of a small saw-mill. Old settlers in the vicinity fix the date as early as 1855 or '56. A few years later a new and more substantial dam and mill took the place of the old, under the pro-

prietorship of A. D. Kingsley and Frank Fowler. A grist mill was afterwards added, and in 1874 the property, including a farm, was purchased by C. W. Bonniwell, who still owns it and has, besides building up one of the finest homes in the county, made material improvements in the water power and mills, and does an extensive business in flour and hard wood lumber. The daily capacity of the flouring mill is sixty barrels, and of the lumber mill, three thousand feet. A steam engine furnishes motive power when low water renders it necessary.

Some effort looking to the building of a grist mill at the old site of Marysville were made about four years ago, and at intervals since, but with no probability of success.

MONTROSE VILLAGE.—This young village is situated about three miles east of Waverly, on the same line of railroad, and was incorporated by an act of the last Legislature. Its official roster is as follows: President, W. H. Mapes; Trustees, W. P. Holbrook, G. M. Wright, and J. C. De Noon; Recorder, J. A. Burner.

The village was platted in 1875, in the fall of which year J. F. Miller & Co. opened a store. They are still in trade, and are the leading firm here. Mr. Miller is seldom here, but the business is ably conducted by his manager, Emil Husser, who became a member of the firm during the summer of 1880. The second store was opened about two years later by Krouse & Husser, who are still in trade, dealing principally in hardware. W. H. Mapes put in a small stock in March, 1880, and in the early fall of 1881, sold to B. F. Hays, who still continues the business. A grocery store, opened in 1880 by J. C. De Noon, a millinery and dress-making establishment, and a drug store just opened, with a harness shop, a lumber mill, built by Haven Brothers in 1872, and lately increased by the addition of a feed mill, a harness shop stocked by J. F. Miller & Co. four years ago, two blacksmith shops, a meat market, saloon, and a hotel, comprise the remainder of business places, except two grain warehouses and the station.

The depot was built in 1875, and J. F. Miller, the founder of the village, was the first agent. After one or two changes it passed into the hands of the present popular incumbent, W. P. Holbrook, who is further mentioned in the succeeding pages.

The village boasts of one of the best school



houses in the county, and has also two churches—Methodist Episcopal and German Evangelical—the former built in 1881, the latter in 1880. Both are recent organizations, and maintain semi-monthly service.

The cultivated area of this town is about 2,133 acres, which produced, according to the agricultural report for 1880: wheat, 29,202 bushels; oats, 14,575 bushels; corn, 20,577 bushels; barley, 137 bushels; rye, 28 bushels; potatoes, 2,434 bushels; beans, 20 bushels; sugar cane, 1,520 gallons; cultivated hay, 125 tons; wild hay, 890 tons; wool, 1,428 pounds; and butter, 12,045 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CHARLES W. BONNIWELL was born in Chatham, England, on the 15th of March, 1830. His parents came to America when Charles was about one year old, and after remaining about six years in New York City, came to Wisconsin and settled about seventeen miles from Milwaukee, where they now live in the enjoyment of one of the finest rural homes in the "Badger State." From 1844 to 1866, the subject of this sketch was engaged in ship-building in Milwaukee, but came to Hutchinson, Minnesota, at the latter date, and in company with L. L. Pendergast and Lewis Harrington, built the first flouring mill at that place. In 1874, he disposed of his interest in the mill at Hutchinson, and purchased the mill property which he now owns and operates, at his present residence in Marysville township. Mr. Bonniwell has rebuilt and remodeled the old mill which he found here at the time of his purchase, and now has a saw and flouring mill inferior to none in this section of the State. He carries on a fine farm adjoining the mill property, and has erected one of the best private residences in Wright county. On this farm are the graves of the Dustin family, murdered by the Indians in 1863, and mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. Bonniwell was elected County Commissioner in 1877, and has always taken a deep interest in educational matters. He was married at his father's residence, on the 10th of November, 1858, to Miss Maria Coles, who is also a native of England. They have had five children, four of whom are living. The eldest, Cora, was married to A. W. Jones, of Howard Lake, on the 23d of June, 1880; the others are, Irwin, Nellie S., and Clarence C. Arthur J., was drowned at Hutchinson on the 1st of August, 1868, aged two years and four months.

JOSEPH BLAND, an early settler and a model

farmer of this section, was born in Virginia, near the Pennsylvania line, on the 14th of July, 1821. Was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in 1865, came to this State and located on his present farm on section twenty-four. This was the first farm opened in this region, Samuel Kriedler making a few improvements twenty-three years ago, after which it passed into the hands of a Mr. Dustin, then Mr. Beadle became the owner, from whose agent our subject purchased it in April, 1865. It was then but little improved, but through Mr. Bland's industry, it is now one of the finest farms in the county. Mr. Bland has been School Treasurer in his district since coming here, Town Treasurer five years, and was elected County Commissioner in the fall of 1880. Was united in marriage with Miss Castilla Wyatt, of Tyler county, West Virginia, in 1842. Their children are, Thornton, Rachel, Martin, Mary, Samuel, Sampson, and Phoebe Jane. The second child died unnamed.

JOHN K. CULLEN was born in Leitrim county, Ireland, on the 24th of November, 1824. He received an Academic education in his native place and graduated at the age of twenty-five years. Came to America in March, 1849, remained for a time in New York City, thence to Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and entered a college at the latter place, remaining, however, only a short time. Was employed as clerk in a wholesale store at Brownsville, near Pittsburg, until 1853, when he engaged, in company with another, in the boot and shoe business. In 1856, he came west, and was engaged as conductor on the railroad, after which he was made superintendent of the road. Since 1857, his family had been in Monroe county, Wisconsin, and in 1865, he located there on a farm. In 1866, he moved to Watertown, in the same State, and was engaged in mercantile business. He came to Carver county, Minnesota, in April, 1873, and was elected School Superintendent for one term. Was then elected to the Legislature one term and afterwards refused the nomination for State Senator. In August, 1873, he came to this place, and the following September, opened a general store at Waverly Mills, but afterwards went on a farm, to which he has given his entire attention. Mr. Cullen was united in marriage with Miss Maria L. Rigden, of Brownsville, Pennsylvania, in 1851. They have three children, one son and two daughters. The son, Charles Henry, was married to Miss Ellen Quim, in 1879.





TIMOTHY DUSTIN was born in Erie county, New York, on the 25th of July, 1844. His father died in 1852, and three years later, his mother came with the family to this county. A full account of the terrible tragedy which befel this family is given elsewhere in these pages. After the murder of his mother by the Indians in 1863, Timothy resided with his brother-in-law, A. D. Kingsley, till July, 1864, when he enlisted in Company H, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served about one year. After returning from the army he settled in this county, and has lived here ever since.

CHARLES L. FLANNIGAN, M. D., dates his birth in Syracuse, New York, on the 18th of November, 1848. He came west with his parents in 1860, who settled at Winona, Minnesota, where Charles attended the High School, and afterwards returned to his native State and took a course in the State University, graduating in the Medical Department in 1871. Again coming west, he spent some time in traveling, after which he commenced the practice of his profession, in which he has been eminently successful. He practiced in Fairfield and Shakopee, going thence to Watertown, Carver county, where he remained three years, being County Physician a portion of the time. In 1881, he took a post-graduate course at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and is now enrolled among the alumni of that institution. He came to Waverly in the spring of 1878, and soon after, opened the first drug store in this place, which he still continues. Miss Frederica Straub, of Winona, became his wife on the 14th of February, 1868. She died at Waverly on the 3d of February, 1880, leaving two children; David S. and Etta A.

ISAAC GRANGER, whose birth occurred in Montreal, Canada, in the year 1810, came to Minnesota in 1857. He soon after went by wagon train from St. Paul to the Red River, and located in the vicinity of Pembina, where he remained till July, 1863, and then returned by wagon to this place, settling on section twenty-two. It was a long and tedious journey and not unattended by danger. Mr. Granger was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Anderson, in February, 1831. Instances like this are seldom met with, the "golden wedding" having been passed, and no symptoms of speedy decline on the part of either. They have had thirteen children, eight of whom are living; Lawrence, Harmidas, Edmond, Godfroi, Theana, Philomen, Anna, and Eliza.

JOHN O'GORMAN, an enterprising merchant of Waverly, was born in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, on the 6th of December, 1852. His father arrived in St. Paul the previous May, and erected a small brick house on the corner of St. Peter and Ninth streets, where John was born. This house still stands on the old spot. Mr. O'Gorman, Sen., was a stone-cutter, and chiseled the first stone steps of the old Capitol; he died on the 28th of January, 1872, and was followed by Mrs. O'Gorman to the shining shore, on the 15th of November, 1878. The subject of this sketch was engaged in the retail grocery trade in St. Paul two and a half years, and also eight years in Berrisford's Cracker Manufactory before coming here. He opened his place of business here on the 1st of September, 1880, and is enjoying a liberal patronage. Mr. O'Gorman was married in St. Paul on the 14th of September, 1876, to Miss Margaret Foley, who has borne him four children, but two of whom are living; Agnes and Julia. The first born were twins, and died in infancy.

WILLIAM P. HOLBROOK is a native of Montrose, Pennsylvania, born on the 19th of August, 1834. Came to Minnesota in 1858, and located in Albion, this county, where he remained two years, and then for a time was unsettled, until in 1862, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers. He was discharged in the fall of 1863, and went to the present site of the village of Howard Lake. Miss Susan C. L. Cochran became his wife on the 14th of April, 1864. The following spring they moved to what is now Smith Lake, located on a claim and remained till 1872, when our subject entered the employ of the railroad company and went to Maple Plain, Hennepin County, as station agent. A year later he was stationed at Smith Lake, and in the spring of 1874, changed to his present station, Montrose. The same summer he bought land and built a residence at this place. Was Deputy Postmaster under G. M. Wright, and since 1880, Postmaster by appointment.

EMIL HUSSER, business manager of J. F. Miller & Co.'s store, was born in Carver County, Minnesota, on the 25th of February, 1858. His parents came from Germany in 1854, and to Carver County the following year. In 1861, his mother died, and several years later, his father moved to St. Paul where he still resides. The subject of this sketch entered the employ of the above named firm ten years ago, but has been a member of Mr.



Miller's family for about seventeen years. In June, 1880, he was admitted to partnership in the company. Miss Ellen Green, of Montrose, became his wife on the 24th of June, 1880. They have one child named Edna.

SAMUEL W. JUNKEN dates his birth in Rushville, Indiana, on the 13th of November, 1833. His youth was spent in his native State until 1860, when he went to Illinois, but returned to Indiana in 1864. In 1868, he came to Minnesota, and was connected with a firm in Minneapolis for one year, in the sale of agricultural implements. He was then engaged in farming one year near Lake Calhoun, after which he came to Wright county and took a homestead of eighty acres in Middleville township. In August, 1880, he engaged as book-keeper for P. & J. W. Fallishe, at Waverly, which position he now occupies. Mr. Junken was married in Indiana, on the 1st of March, 1855, to Miss Martha E. Brann, of Quincy, Illinois, who died in Middleville, in October, 1875, leaving five children; Fanny, Mary, Sigel, James N., and Robert. Though not seeking public positions, yet Mr. Junken was called by his townsmen to fill some office of responsibility every year during his residence in Middleville.

LA VIERRE KYTE was born in Elmira, New York, on the 21st of April, 1837. He removed with his parents to Michigan when but a child, and in 1872, came to Minnesota and took charge of the railroad station at this place, which position he still fills. Mr. Kyte had held responsible positions in some of the leading railroad offices in Michigan prior to coming here. He was married at Sturgis, Michigan, on the 25th of March, 1860, to Miss Salome Pontius, a native of Ohio. They have had three children, but one of whom is living. Mrs. Kyte was appointed Postmistress in 1873, and has held the office ever since.

HENRY LAMMERS, a native of Westphalia, Prussia, was born on the 4th of January, 1827. In 1852, he came to America, and after remaining one year in Chicago, removed to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged at his trade, that of carpenter and joiner, for two years. He came to Minnesota in August, 1854, and followed his trade at St. Paul until 1859, when he came to Wright county and took a claim on section six, Franklin township. He sold his claim in 1861, and came to Waverly, where he opened the second store in the village. In 1864, he disposed of his store and enlisted in Company A, of the First

Minnesota Heavy Artillery and served till the close of the war. Returning from the army he purchased a farm on section nineteen, in this township and has since devoted much of his time to its improvement, it being one of the best improved farms in the county. Mr. Lammers was married in Chicago, on the 17th of May, 1854, to Miss Anna Gardner, who died in November, 1865. She had borne him four children, two of whom are living; Henry L. and Dora L. He was again married in December, 1865, to Mrs. Dimer Kline. Four children were born of this marriage, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are named Matilda and George.

FRANKLIN D. REDFIELD was born in Princeton, Wisconsin, on the 13th of February, 1860. Came to this State with his parents and located at Owatonna in 1865. A year later they removed to Hamilton, then to Howard Lake in December, 1870. In 1880, they sold their farm in the latter place and came to this village. Mr. Redfield has been engaged in school-teaching for the past few years. He was principal of the village schools at Montrose in the winter of 1880-81, but at the close of the term, entered the store of J. F. Miller & Co. as clerk. Miss Ida Ball became his wife on the 11th of March, 1879. They have two children, Adelbert and Duard.

JOHN ROBERGE, a native of Quebec, Canada, was born on the 27th of August, 1841. He came with his parents to Minnesota at the age of seven years, and settled in St. Paul, which was then only a hamlet. In 1852, they removed to the west side of the town, where the father still resides on a farm. The mother died in the latter place on the 15th of March, 1881, at the age of sixty-five years. On the 14th of August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Company H, of the Tenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and on the 21st of August, 1863, was mustered out at Fort Snelling. About three months later, he came to Marysville township, made a claim on section two, and brought his family here the following spring. Mr. Roberge was united in marriage with Miss Matilda Christian, of Michigan, on the 29th of October, 1865. Their children are, Charles, Cordelia, Addie, and Jeanette. Willie, the youngest, died aged ten months. Mrs. Roberge's mother is also a member of the family.

GEORGE M. WRIGHT, one of the pioneers of this region, was born in Pennsylvania on the 22d of July, 1835. He came to this county in 1857, and





took a claim in Woodland, on which he resided till coming to his present farm in 1860. Mr. Wright has always been engaged in farming except about two years, when he was in the army. He served in the Third Battery, Minnesota Light Artillery, from March, 1864, till February, 1866. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary S. Hainer, is a native of Pennsylvania, and became his wife on the 24th of May, 1856. They have ten children; Herbert, Hudson, Ernest, Henry, Clarence, Charles, Dwight, Grant, Anna L., and John W.

ARTHUR YOUNG, a native of Canada, came to this place on the 7th of April, 1879, and the following year engaged in business for himself. In 1881, he built a fine building on Main street, Waverly, using the lower part for a first-class billiard room and dwelling, and the upper story is fitted for a lodge room, which he rents to the Druids. His brother, Thady, who came here in 1880, is his only relative in the United States. Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Delma Delback, of Marysville, on the 8th of June, 1880.

## MONTICELLO.

### CHAPTER CXXVIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—VILLAGE HISTORY—MILLS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Monticello, one of the northern towns of Wright county, is bounded on the north by Sherburne county, from which it is separated by the Mississippi river, east by Otsego, south by Frankfort and Buffalo, and west by Maple Lake and Silver Creek. Its form is irregular, and two fractional townships, with a portion of a third, also fractional, are embraced within its borders. Its eastern line is something over four miles in extent, its southern, nine, and its western, eight and one half; while its northern line, formed by the Mississippi river, is about twelve miles in extent. A light growth of timber skirts the river, reaching back in the eastern part of the town, where it unites with the heavier timber of the adjoining territory. The remainder of the town, with some slight exceptions, is a beautiful open prairie, gently undulating, merging into brush and light timber, and now under thorough cultivation, and dotted by

pleasant farm residences, presenting one of the most delightful scenes to be found in the Northwest. To the south and west of the village, hereafter mentioned, are numerous lakes, some of which are of rare beauty, and often visited both by pleasure-seekers and lovers of piscatorial diversion. Pelican lake, a little east of south from the village, lies partly within this town, and partly in Buffalo and Frankfort. This is the largest body of water wholly within the limits of Wright county, and is well stocked with fish, as are also the smaller lakes referred to. A chain of lakes in the western part of the town are connected by streams of moderate size, terminating in Mill creek, which forms the outlet, and empties into the Mississippi just above the village limits. South of the village, a chain of lakes are connected in like manner, but have no visible outlet. Most of these lakes are environed by poplar and oak groves, or fringed by lighter timber and shrubbery, and constitute a sportsman's paradise during the duck-hunting season.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.—In the summer of 1852, two young men, Herbert McCrory and F. M. Cadwell, pushed forward along the valley of the Mississippi beyond the cabins of earlier settlers, until charmed with the picturesque scenery and fertile soil, they selected claims and commenced improvements. Mr. McCrory's claim was in section three, west of the present village, and included the mill site hereafter mentioned. Mr. Cadwell's claim was about two miles above, on section thirty-two of the adjoining congressional township. The next to open a farm here was Row Brasie, who came from Wisconsin in the early part of July, 1854, and located on section nine, on the farm now owned by G. W. Herriek. Two weeks later, about the 20th of July, the settlement was augmented by the arrival of J. B. Rich, James Marden, J. B. Marden, Robert Ford, Henry Carr, and Charles Davis, all of whom took claims within two miles of the present village. Subsequently these parties sold to other early comers, except Mr. Rich, who remained for some time on his claim, where he made considerable improvement. None of the others remained on their claims a full year.

Soon after the arrivals above noted, Ashley C. Riggs laid claim to the present site of Moritzious, now lower Monticello, and in August a young man named Proctor, a printer, from St. Anthony, built a claim shanty on the present site of Monticello. Late in the fall of that year S. McManus



and Thomas Creighton platted the town site of Monticello, which Mr. Creighton named from the "Little Mountain," a hill of modest proportions, about two miles from the village to the southeast. Previous to this, in September, Ashley C. Riggs and Moritzions Weissberger laid out the town of Moritzions. Mr. Riggs also established a ferry across the Mississippi the same season, which was the only one here for two years. In the fall, his brother, George W., bought a half interest in the ferry, which he still retains.

Other early settlers were, Augustus Mitchell, H. H. Helm, Ira Hoar, and H. S. Brasie, who came in 1854; Z. M. Brown, George W. Riggs, Thomas Anderson, C. S. Boyd, Ambrose Bryant, Alexander Mitchell, Royal Marsh, Charles Sydlinker, and John Whitcomb, in 1855, and Sam. E. Adams, C. W. Clarey, T. G. Mealey, Henry Kreis, the Waldens, Stokes, and others who followed soon after, and settled in different parts of the town. Of those named, the majority are still living here, as also other early settlers named hereafter.

The first store opened here was by James and Thomas Chambers, in the present residence of Mrs. Brown, widow of Geo. Brown, who was among the early settlers here. The building is on its original site, near and back of the Advent Church.

The first church in 1856, by the Methodist Episcopal society, was organized under the pastoral direction of Rev. Thomas Creighton.

A lumber mill was built in 1855, by Z. M. Brown and Thomas Creighton, with a daily capacity of about twenty-five thousand feet. The mill is yet standing, and the old boom-piers are in existence, though unused for several years past. The property is now owned by Fred. Hitter, and is situated on the river bank, just above the island lying between the upper and lower ferries. A second lumber mill was built in lower town the year following, by G. W. and A. C. Riggs, J. D. Taylor, E. Stiles, and H. H. Helm, with a capacity of twenty-five thousand feet daily. It was destroyed by fire in November, 1858, and never rebuilt. Both mills were operated by steam.

In 1857, another ferry was established by John F. Gallow, which is still in operation. Mr. Gallow died some years ago, and the ferry was run by his son, John E. Gallow, for a number of years prior to 1880, when it was sold to the present owner, Mr. C. Jones.

E. W. Merrill first directed the youth of the energetic young colony in the paths of wisdom; a

ruide hall being devoted to that purpose in the winter of 1855-56. The following summer witnessed the erection of a comfortable school building, which is yet in existence, though long since abandoned as an institution of learning. It is now on section eleven, near the village. The first term of school held in the new building was taught by O. C. Gray.

In 1856, Harvey Brookins came here from Illinois and started a livery stable, the first in the place, which has passed through different hands, and is now owned by P. S. Titus and J. W. Hanaford. George Knowlton and George Libbey opened the first blacksmith shop, in 1856.

The first white child born in Monticello was Fred Anderson, whose birth occurred in the fall of 1855. The first within the village limits was John G., son of George W. Riggs, the birth dating December 16th, 1855.

The first death was that of Mrs. Caswell, an invalid lady who came here from Canada in 1855, in the hope of recovering her health. She came too late, however; her doom was sealed, and not even the health giving atmosphere of this enchanting region could gainsay the "Great Destroyer." She died, and her husband soon removed to Meeker county, where he is supposed now to reside.

The first marriage ceremony was performed about 1856, uniting A. S. Descent and Miranda Chandler. Another occurred not far from this time, when one of the present merchants of Monticello, then holding the office of Justice of the Peace under appointment (it being in Territorial days), cemented the future destinies of F. M. Cadwell and Miss Elizabeth McCrory.

There is an amusing tradition still preserved in relation to this union. It is said that this officer had been engaged to perform the ceremony, but in the multiplicity of business cares had given it no further thought, until reminded of it a few moments before the appointed time. His mind was not clear as to the exact nature of his duties, or the proper course of procedure, and in his perplexity he resorted to his prayer-book. Vain hope! It yielded no guide to the footsteps of the Judiciary, and being then unfamiliar with our legal forms, the case became desperate. However, he rose to the dignity of the occasion," extracted solemn promises from the bride and groom, and declared them man and wife, "according to the law in such cases made and provided." The statement to the effect that the ceremony closed with





the words "and may God have mercy on your souls," lacks confirmation, and is only mentioned as a matter of tradition.

The first hotel was opened to the public in October, 1857. It was called the Cataract House, and was under the management of Mr. Cross. It was situated near the lower ferry, and was destroyed by fire previous to the late civil war.

**MILLS.**—The first flouring mill was built by William Tubbs in 1870, and was situated near the mouth of Mill creek, just west of the village limits. It had three run of stones, was 30x40 feet, and two stories above the basement. In 1874, it was sold to K. G. Staples, who took J. W. Tennison as a partner, the firm doing business until January, 1879, when the mill was destroyed by fire. In 1880, the mill property was purchased by Charles Janney, who erected a larger and better furnished mill, which he is now operating with marked success.

Soon after Mr. Tubbs built the first mill, as above stated. An elevator was built in the central part of the village by H. Bliss and C. W. Clurey, which was soon after changed to a steam grist mill, with two run of stones, and was run until about 1877, when it was destroyed by fire.

In the fall of 1879, John Holler built a small feed mill in the village, run by a portable engine, which was discontinued after the building of the present flouring mill. Mr. Holler also run a portable saw mill in the village during the present summer (1881).

Soon after the war a portable saw mill was put in operation by J. B. Blanchard near the lower ferry, which was run some time and terminated in an explosion, killing the engineer, a Mr. Wood. Some distance above this mill a tannery was built by Benjamin Bradford, not long after the war, which, however, was not long continued.

A Post-office was established in 1855, which for a time glided, like a weaver's shuttle, between upper and lower town, but finally found a resting place in a central location, where it has since remained. G. W. Gerrish was Postmaster nearly twelve years prior to C. E. Kreis, the present incumbent, who took charge in the early summer of 1881. It is a money order office and one of the most important in the county.

Monticello was first incorporated by an act of the Territorial Legislature approved March 1st, 1856, the boundaries including "so much of the territory of Wright county as is contained within

the town site, not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres," the same to constitute "a town incorporated by the name of Monticello." Moritzions was also incorporated by an act of the State Legislature approved August 13th, 1858, which act named Moritzions Weissberger as President, A. Richter as Recorder, and Row Brasie, with the two officers named, as Trustees. In after years, difficulties relating to titles led to some change in the corporation of Monticello, and on the 27th of April, 1861, the present organization was consummated, and the following officers elected: President, Z. M. Brown; Trustees, W. C. Williams, L. C. Pickens, and J. W. Mulvey; Recorder, J. G. Smith. Moritzions corporation still exists, but only for the purpose of disposing of certain village lots held in trust according to the provision of the corporate act.

**TOWN ORGANIZATION.**—The formation of the precinct of Monticello is noted in the county history, and requires no further mention. Under the organization there mentioned, William Creighton was the first, and Samuel Wilder the second Justice of the Peace, and J. B. Rich the first Constable. The present town organization was perfected by the election of the following officers, at the first annual town meeting, held on the 11th of May, 1858: Supervisors, H. H. Helm, Chairman, W. C. Williams and A. Stuart; Clerk, Lyman Case; Assessor, Horatio Houlton; Collector, W. S. Brookins; Justices of the Peace, Samuel Bennett and T. G. Mealey; Constables, W. S. Brookins and J. Leming; Overseer of roads, G. W. Hamilton. The number of votes cast was one hundred and twenty-seven, from which may be judged something of the growth of the community since the first settlement.

**CHURCHES.**—The Congregational church was organized March 8th, 1856, through the efforts of Rev. J. C. Whitney, who visited the place in January, 1856, and held religious services at the house of N. Fletcher. Twenty-two members were enrolled. John Perkins was elected Deacon, and A. W. Wood, Clerk. A church was built during the summer, and dedicated in the fall of that year. Rev. Mr. Hicks was the first pastor, and his successors have been, Revs. W. Griswold, A. K. Fox, A. V. House, O. M. Smith, Rev. Mr. Jenks, Rev. Mr. Cutler, A. K. Fox, and in 1881, the society secured the services of Rev. Alva A. Hurd, under whose ministry the church is enjoying an encouraging degree of prosperity.



The Baptist church was represented as early as 1856, when a society was organized by Rev. L. Atkinson, who visited the place under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society. For some time the society was without a place of worship, but in 1871, commenced the erection of a church, which was completed and dedicated in 1875. The first settled pastor was Rev. R. H. Weeks, in 1860, who remained till the fall of 1862, and was succeeded by Rev. G. B. Bills in 1866, the church being without stated preaching during the interim. In 1873, Rev. M. A. Blowers assumed pastoral charge, and has since remained. The society numbers about forty-two, and the church edifice is a neat wood structure, erected at a cost of about \$1,500.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized under the ministration of Rev. S. T. Creighton, in 1856, through whose efforts a church was soon erected, and on Sunday, October 18th, 1857, was dedicated, Rev. John Penman, of St. Paul, officiating. Since Mr. Creighton's term, the ministers following were in the order here given: Noah Lathrop, William Shelly, S. T. Sterritt, — Whiting, A. Welsh, — Perrigrim, D. Brooks, H. J. Shaffner, L. C. Collins, Shunk, Thomas Day, J. G. Teter, L. Gleason, and M. B. Smith, the present pastor. The present membership is about sixty, besides which the Otsego church is connected, the pastor located here preaching at this point each Sunday morning, and at Otsego in the afternoon. In 1880, the old church edifice was enlarged and remodeled, and is now the largest and best in the village.

The Advent Christian church was organized in the fall of 1868, and a church erected the following year. William Chandler assumed the whole expense of building, and placed the church, free of charge, at the disposal of the society so long as used by them as a house of worship, with the further requirement that weekly service be maintained. The society furnished the church, and are held responsible for its preservation, repairs, etc. Rev. O. B. Fasset effected the organization of the society, and Rev. L. C. Collins was the first settled pastor. Revs. S. C., and M. Wellcome have since had charge, and at present the pulpit is supplied by Rev. C. B. Fellows.

Each of the churches named maintain Sabbath schools, and unite monthly in a union concert, held in the several churches in regular rotation.

In school matters Monticello has ever been foremost among western towns. The early school efforts have already been noted and need no further

mention. At a time when the village was yet in its infancy, its leading citizens conceived the praiseworthy idea from which has resulted the present independent district, and Academy. This Academy was chartered under an act providing for a special class of graded schools, which are practically adjuncts of the State University. The school has three departments—high, intermediate, and primary, in the first of which are taught the higher branches, natural philosophy, geometry, latin, etc. The charter for this Academy was granted in 1856, and the next year the building was erected at a cost of \$7,000—the money being obtained by loan from eastern capitalists. Considerable dissatisfaction resulted from this movement, but it has long since died away, and the public now feel a just pride in the reputation the school has won and still maintains. During the interval between the granting of the charter and the formal opening of the building for school purposes, a school of two departments was conducted by Prof. E. W. Merrill assisted by his sister, in a hall over the store then owned by Z. M. Brown, and known later as the "People's Store" in upper town. Six district schools are maintained in the town, which with the Academy afford educational facilities rarely met with throughout the Northwest.

#### SOCIETIES.

The first society here in point of date was the Wright County Bible Society, which was organized June 26th, 1855. Only imperfect records can be obtained, but the partial list, furnished from memory, names C. S. Boyd as President, Nathan Fletcher as Vice-President, and James Chambers as Secretary. It is a matter of regret that full details of the society are not obtainable. The present officers are: President, Henry Kreis; Vice-President, J. R. Longfellow; Secretary, A. F. Barker; and Treasurer, George W. Carpenter. The depository is at the store of Mr. Carpenter. The annual meetings of the society occur in January at some one of the churches in Monticello.

MONTICELLO UNION TEMPERANCE SOCIETY was organized March 21st, 1874, with the following officers: President, Rev. D. Brooks; Vice-President, George W. Carpenter; Secretary, Samuel Wilder; Treasurer, Henry Kreis; Executive Committee, Rev. O. M. Smith, T. Day, Revs. D. Brooks, M. A. Blowers, and S. C. Wellcome. Meetings are held on the last Sunday evenings of each month, at each of the churches in rotation. The present officers are: President, Samuel





Wilder; Vice-President, Henry Kreis; Secretary, Miss Emma Kreis; Treasurer, George W. Carpenter; Executive Committee, Revs. A. A. Hurd, M. A. Blowers, C. B. Fellows, and M. B. Smith.

MONTICELLO LODGE, No. 16, A. F. AND A. M. was organized U. D. in December, 1856, and received its charter January, 6th, 1857. The chartermembers were: S. J. Mason, Samuel E. Adams, Thomas Chambers, H. H. Helm, C. C. Burns, George M. Bertram, Ira H. Keen, J. N. Barlow, Charles King, E. W. Merrill, and Joseph Nelson. From this membership the following officers were chosen: S. J. Mason, W. M.; Sam. E. Adams, S. W.; Thomas Chambers, J. W.; C. C. Burns, Sec.; H. H. Helm, Treas.; Ira H. Keen, S. D.; and Joseph Nelson, Tyler. Of the members since added, quite a number have demitted for the purpose of affiliating with lodges in places to which they had removed, besides which several neighboring lodges have drawn from this in charter members at the time of organization, this being the parent lodge of this region. Several of the original charter members are still here, among whom are H. H. Helm and Joseph Nelson, the former of whom is the only Treasurer the lodge has ever chosen. The membership at the last annual report was forty-two. The present officers are: Henry Kreis, W. M.; Frank Macdonald, S. W.; Elam S. Gibbs, J. W.; Fred. H. Brown, Sec.; H. H. Helm, Treas.; H. A. Irwin, S. D.; Daniel Mast, J. D.; Daniel Dearborn, S. S.; Don F. Fuller, J. S.; and W. P. Barnett, Tyler.

A lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars was organized as early as 1864, but from lack of personal effort was allowed to die out, and the charter was forfeited. The present organization was effected in October, 1874, with twenty-seven members and the following officers: A. F. Barker, W. O. T.; Laura Kreis, W. V. T.; G. T. Welleome, W. S.; Charles O. Whitney, W. C.; Annie Wilson, W. A. S.; K. G. Staples, W. F. S.; Mary Longfellow, W. T.; A. B. Burdall, W. M.; Nellie Bliss, D. M.

The interest that led to the organization has been kept up, and weekly meetings maintained. They meet each Friday evening in a rented hall, which is furnished by the society. Music and literary exercises render the meetings both pleasant and profitable, and the attendance is usually good. The present membership roll shows fifty-three names, and additions are constantly being made.

A Cemetery Association was organized in 1857, incorporated in 1858, and a tract of ground secured and platted in the south part of the town site, where now lie the remains of many of the early settlers. The once plain, grassy slope is now thickly studded with marble slabs and polished columns; tokens of love for the departed, and silent reminders of man's mortality.

NEWSPAPERS.—The first, and for many years the only paper published in Wright county, was in Monticello. The "Monticello Times" was published by C. M. Kenton in 1857, and continued until 1859, when George Gray, now a leading merchant of Monticello, purchased the office and material, and in June began the publication of the "Wright County Republican." Mr. Gray also published the "Northern Statesman," continuing his editorial labors till 1871, when he sold the office to T. A. Perrine, who changed the name to the "Wright County Times," which name it still bears. In December, 1878, Mr. Perrine was forced to abandon editorial labor, owing to failing health, and sold to Ed. A. Fisher and Orlando Kling, firm name of Fisher & Kling, which partnership continued till September, 1879, when Mr. Kling returned to his former occupation, that of druggist, Mr. Fisher continuing the publication till September, 1880, when the present editor and proprietor, Sam E. Adams, assumed control. The original size of the "Times" was a seven-column folio, but was changed to a nine-column folio soon after the purchase from Mr. Perrine.

Monticello township has a cultivated area of over 7,000 acres, and the products, according to the agricultural report for 1880, were: wheat, 82,975 bushels; oats, 27,771 bushels; corn, 25,021 bushels; barley, 15 bushels; rye, 1,000 bushels; buckwheat, 150 bushels; potatoes, 5,214 bushels; beans, 49 bushels; sugar cane, 1,303 gallons; cultivated hay, 371 tons; flax seed, 25 bushels; timothy seed, 199 bushels; wild hay, 1,361 tons; tobacco, 20 pounds; wool, 5,631 pounds; butter, 23,305 pounds; honey, 1,690 pounds; and cheese, 700 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

SAMUEL E. ADAMS is a descendant of the old Lexington, Massachusetts, family of that name, and was born in Reading, Windsor county, Vermont, on the 1st of December, 1828. When Samuel was about a year old, the family removed to Bellows Falls, and thence to Rutland county, where he was raised on his father's farm. He



prepared for college at Thetford and West Randolph, and entered Dartmouth College in 1851, but was obliged to leave on account of ill health. In 1853, he was appointed by President Pierce, route agent between Boston and Burlington, but two years later, resigned that position and came to Minnesota on account of a bronchial difficulty, from which he speedily and permanently recovered. He settled in Monticello, then the seat of justice of Wright county, in 1856, and for two or three years was in the mercantile trade. In 1859, he was appointed special agent of the Post-office department for Iowa and Minnesota, and the next year, became Receiver at the land office in St. Cloud, but left the next year, when the republicans came into power. Though a democrat in those days, he was for prosecuting the war for the Union with the utmost energy and dispatch, and in 1862, was appointed Paymaster by President Lincoln. He was breveted Lieutenant Colonel in 1865, "for meritorious services in the field," and did not leave the service until January, 1866, when honorably discharged by the Secretary of War. He returned to Minnesota in 1866, and engaged in real estate and mercantile business, continuing the latter until the present time. He was elected State Senator in 1857, and re-elected in 1859, and while in that body served on the committee on State affairs, public lands, towns and counties, and engrossment. He has been a member of the school board for many years, and takes a deep interest in educational matters. In September, 1880, he assumed the editorial management of the "Wright County Times," which he still conducts. Mr. Adams was married on the 21st of July, 1859, to Miss Augusta J. Smith, of Pittsford, Vermont. They have two sons; Henry Rice and John Cain.

FRED T. ANDERSON was born in the township of Monticello, on the 3d of August, 1855, and was the first white child born in the town. His father is a native of New Hampshire, and his mother was born in Maine. Fred is their only child. Mr. Anderson owns a farm of one hundred and thirty-four acres in sections six and seven, Monticello township. He married Miss A. S. Simmons on the 1st of January, 1878. They have one child, named Marion.

ALBERT F. BAKER, a native of Bethel, Maine, was born on the 2d of June, 1839. He was farming till seventeen years of age, and then followed painting, coming to Monticello in 1856. In 1862,

he enlisted in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving two years on the frontier, then at Fort Snelling, till mustered out in June, 1865. He then returned to Monticello, and engaged in the furniture business for three years; was elected clerk of the District Court, which office he filled from 1866 to 1870. In 1870, sold his furniture establishment, and engaged in the drug business, which he still follows. He married Miss Eliza J. Brown, of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on the 14th of November, 1860. Their children are, Nellie L., Frederick L., Bertie M., George V., Mae, and Challen B.

ISAAC BAILEY, a native of Canada East, was born in the year 1822, and emigrated to the United States in 1857. After remaining a few months at Monticello, he removed to that portion of Big Lake, since set-off and named Orrock, where he resided on a farm till 1876, when he traded the farm for the Central House at Monticello, and moved to Big Lake township, where he owned another farm. In May, 1881, he moved to Monticello, and took charge of the Central House. While a resident of Big Lake town, he filled various positions of public trust, such as Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, and member of the School Board. Mr. Bailey has won quite a reputation as a hunter. He killed over four hundred deer and a comparative number of bears while a resident of Orrock. He married Miss Margaret Gibson, of Quebec, in 1850. Their children are, Emma J., Gibson L., Abby H., Elizabeth A., Frederick E., and Elsa A.

ROW BRASIE, a native of the State of New York, was born in the year 1806. In 1844, went to Illinois and farmed for a few years, then to Ripon, Wisconsin, four or five years, where he was farming and keeping a hotel. In 1854, came to Monticello, locating on a farm about one mile from town, but after four years sold out and went to Big Lake, Sherburne county, and farmed till 1871. Then moved to Delano and engaged in merchandising till 1880, when he moved to Litchfield, where he is now in the mercantile trade. He married Miss Hulda A. Bettis. Their children are Henry S., W. Worth, John A., and Charles A. Henry S. Brasie was born on the 18th of August, 1838. In 1864, he engaged in merchandising in Monticello for two years, then in the hotel business for the same length of time in Lower Town. In 1871, built the Merchants Hotel in Upper Town, operating it for eight years;





then sold to Mr. Jackson. In 1879, moved on a farm in section twenty-three, where he has one hundred and sixty acres, one hundred and twenty-five being under cultivation. He married Miss Mary H. Hamilton in 1860. Their children are, Gertrude, George, Henry, Nellie, and Grace.

MILTON BLISS was born on the 24th of April, 1829, at Oswego, New York. His father was a manufacturer of woolen goods, with whom Milton worked in the mill till twenty-one years of age. Then learned the carpenter trade and followed building for fifteen years, after which he engaged in the merchandise trade in Orleans county, New York, until he moved to Monticello in 1866. He bought a farm on sections five and six, where he still resides. He married Miss Harriet M. Lewis on the 1st of December, 1853. Their children are, Clement L. and Nellie M.

BARKER BAILEY, a native of Vermont, was born on the 14th of May, 1802. At the age of ten years the family moved to Canada East, where he spent boyhood on a farm and lived until 1855, when he came to Minnesota and located on sections five and six, Monticello township, giving his attention to farming. He married Miss Eunice Caswell, of Vermont, on the 25th of September, 1830. Their children are, Lucy, Moody, Susan, Helen, and Direxy.

REV. MARTIN A. BLOWERS, a native of Onondaga county, New York, was born on the 19th of February, 1836. When a small boy, the family moved to Michigan, where he received his education. He attended the Kalamazoo College, preparing for the ministry in the Baptist Church. His first charge was at Rolin, Lenawee county, where he was ordained in 1869. After serving the church for two years, removed to Wheatland, the same length of time, thence to Monticello, Minnesota, in 1873, where he is still Pastor of the Baptist Church. He married Miss Delilah E. Nye, of Otsego, Wright county, in March, 1866. Their children are, Frank E., Mary S., and Olive A.

C. S. BOYD, (deceased) a native of Ohio, was born on the 5th of May, 1811. He learned the mason trade while young, and followed the business till 1855. Then came to Minnesota, locating on sections twenty-two and twenty-seven, Monticello township. He was one of the early settlers, and highly respected by his fellow-citizens. He met an untimely death by being caught under a falling tree on the 16th of February, 1880. He married Miss Elizabeth Hockett, of Ohio, on the

7th of October, 1847. Their children are, Anna, Charles W., Henry H., and Benjamin F.

AMBROSE BRYANT, a native of Kennebec county, Maine, was born on the 12th of June, 1810. He learned the blacksmith trade, and followed the business for a number of years; then was in the mercantile business for several years. In 1855, came to Monticello, locating on a farm in sections thirty-two and thirty-three, which he sold in the spring of 1881, and is now living with his son Alonzo. He married Miss Narcissa Merrill, of Windsor, Maine, on the 15th of December, 1834. Of twelve children born to them, eleven are living.

AMBROSE O. BRYANT, a son of the subject of our last sketch, was born on the 6th of April, 1845, in Windsor, Maine. He married Miss Mary E. Knights, on the 1st of December, 1880, and is engaged in farming in this township.

HERBERT E. BRYANT, a brother of our last subject, was born in Monticello township, on the 3d of May, 1859. He has worked on his father's farm most of his life.

FREMONT BRYANT, another brother, was also born in Monticello, on the 30th of October, 1857. He resides in Buffalo, engaged in the livery business.

PETER BECKER, a native of Prussia, Germany, was born in the year 1844. He learned the tailor's trade in his native country, and emigrated to America in 1868. He remained three years in Illinois, one year at Vicksburg, Mississippi, then went to Wisconsin for a number of years. In 1875, he moved to Minnesota, stopping at Minneapolis for one year; then came to Buffalo, Wright county, and was engaged in farming and at the tailor business until 1880, when he moved to Monticello, and has lived here since. He married Miss Susie Ludes, in 1875. They have three children, Annie K., John A., and Maggie E.

E. K. CHAMBERLIN was born in Kennebec county, Maine, on the 10th of March, 1828. He shared the advantages of a farmer's occupation, which, with lumbering, he followed till coming to St. Anthony in 1851, where he continued in the lumber business for three years. In 1854, returned to his native State, remaining two years, then returned to Minnesota, locating on a farm near Buffalo, Wright county. In 1862, enlisted in the Mounted Rangers, serving one year on the frontier, also served one year in the South during the Rebellion. Returned from the army to Buffalo, but soon located on a farm in section twenty-nine,



Monticello township. Five years later, he sold out and moved to section twenty-two in the same town where he still resides. He married Miss Sarah Ward on the 21st of June, 1860, who died September, 30, 1866. He chose for a second wife, Mrs. Almida Foster. His children are, Emil W., Erson C., and Oscar T.

CHARLES W. CLAREY, a native of Georgetown, Maine, was born on the 31st of July, 1833, participating in farm labors, together with lumbering, till he came to Minnesota in 1853. He spent two years as salesman in a dry goods house in St. Paul and Minneapolis; then came to Monticello in 1856, engaging in the merchandise trade for a time, then in the stock trade for four or five years, after which he was in the wheelwright business, for about ten years. In 1876, engaged in the wheat trade and doing a general business. He lives in the village, and carries on a farm, owning about three hundred acres of land in the township. He married Miss Margaret Seeley, of St. George, New Brunswick, on the 2d of April, 1857. Their children are, Jennie, Amanda, Charles, Howard, Herbert, Maud, and Ernest.

GEORGE W. M. DRAKE was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, on the 22d of July, 1827. At the age of eighteen, he went to Boston, and learned the brick mason trade, which business he followed for ten years. In 1855, moved to Minnesota, and located on section twenty, Monticello township, and farmed for ten years, then moved into Monticello, and opened a blacksmith shop, which he still continues. He married Miss Jane Frith, in 1850. They have three children; Addie, Nellie, and Frank.

P. S. TRUS, a native of the state of New York, was born on the 18th of April, 1839, and engaged in farming pursuits till 1860, when he, like most young men sought his fortune in the West. He located in Monticello, Wright county, working in a hotel for one year, then on a farm for one year, when he enlisted in the First Minnesota Regiment, serving for three years. After returning from the army, farmed till 1870, then engaged in the livery and stage business, in which he has continued to this date. He married Miss Flora Hanaford in 1865. Their children are, Herman and May.

GEORGE GRAY, a native of Lockport, New York, was born on the 6th of March, 1836. At the age of sixteen went into a printing office in his native town, where he remained till 1857, when he came to St. Anthony and worked in the office of "The

St. Anthony Express" for one year. In a short time he established a semi-weekly paper called "The St. Anthony Advertiser," which he conducted for six months, then sold out and came to Monticello and bought out "The Monticello Times," which had been started in 1857 by C. M. Kenton, being the first paper published in this place. Mr. Gray changed the name of the paper to "The Wright County Republican," the first issue appearing in June, 1858. After conducting the paper for about thirteen years, sold out to T. A. Perrine. Prior to this time Mr. Gray (in 1865) bought a newspaper office at Anoka and started "The Anoka Union," which he controlled for a year, then sold it to G. S. Pease, the present proprietor. In 1871 he moved to Reading, Michigan, where he published a Republican paper called "Rough Notes" for three years, then sold out and returned to Monticello and engaged in the mercantile business, which he still follows. He married Miss Elvira E. Gaskill on the 14th of June, 1858. Their children are, Carrie A., Charles W. and Lottie A.

DANIEL GRAY, a native of Topsham, Maine, was born on the 31st of December, 1820, residing in his native State till 1854, when he came west. He located in Monticello, and for the past ten years, his genial countenance has been visible at the drug store of Colonel Samuel Adams.

ELAM S. GIBBS, M. D., a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 1st of May, 1847. He went to Albert Lea, Minnesota, in 1865; taught school one year, then gave his attention to the study of medicine, graduating from the Medical College of Cleveland, Ohio, on the 23d of February, 1869. Then practiced medicine at Geneva, Freeborn county, Minnesota, for two years, then at Glencoe and Litchfield, two years in each place, and in 1875, came to Monticello, where he continues in the practice of his profession. He married Miss Martha J. Brown, of Dundas, Rice county, Minnesota, on the 22d of February, 1870. Their children are, Gertrude E. and Elsie C.

MYRON CLARK GOULD was born in Cook county, Illinois, where he lived till ten years of age, when the family moved to Dakota county, Minnesota, locating on a farm twelve miles from Hastings. He enlisted, at the age of seventeen, in Company K, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was on one expedition to the Plains; stationed for one year at Alexandria, Minnesota, and





went South in 1864. He was in the battle of Murfreesboro', Tennessee, and mustered out at Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1865. He then came to Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, where he lived on a farm until he moved to the township of Monticello. He has eighty acres in section twenty-one, which he bought in May, 1881. He was married to Miss Julia Minnick in September, 1869, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York. They have six children.

FREDRICK HITTER, a native of Germany, was born in the year 1830; came to America in 1850, locating in New York for six years, working at the carpenter business. Then came to Maple Lake, Wright county, and took a claim in section fifteen, farming and doing carpenter work until 1861, when he removed to Monticello. In 1862, he opened a saloon and grocery store, and soon after added agricultural implements, which business he followed till 1870. Then sold his business and engaged in the manufacture of lumber for four or five years, after which he opened a general mercantile store. He married Miss Wilhelmina Schultz in 1858. Their children are, William, Louisa, Minnie, Fredrick, Annie, Julia, Flora, Herman, Harry, and an infant not yet named.

JOHN A. HOLLER was born in Ohio on the 12th of April, 1843. He was reared to farming pursuits, and in 1860, came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Big Lake township, Sherburne county, and four years later, came to Monticello, locating on a farm four miles southeast of the village. After remaining in the latter place seven years, he removed to the village and was engaged in contracting and building until 1879. In the spring of 1881, he erected a temporary saw mill about half a mile above Monticello, but intends erecting a permanent building with an increased capacity, very soon. Mr. Holler was married in 1871, to Miss Mary E. Clark, of Maine. Their children are, Harry, George, Ernest, and John.

HENRY H. HELM, one of the first settlers of Monticello, was born in Kentucky, on the 30th of November, 1801. While a small boy, the family moved to Indiana, and in 1854, to Monticello, Wright county, locating on section thirteen, where he still resides. He married Miss Susan Martin, of Indiana, in 1833. Their children are, Elizabeth, William H., Nancy, and Clay.

WILLIAM H. HELM, a son of Henry H. Helm, was born at Logansport, Indiana, on the 24th of February, 1836. He came to Monticello with

his parents and was in the store of S. E. Adams as a clerk for some years. In 1860, went to Crawford county, Missouri, and when the war broke out, enlisted in the Forty-eighth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, serving eight months, when he was transferred to the United States Mail Service, in which he continued for fourteen years, running from St. Louis to Vinita in the Cherokee Nation. In 1880, he resigned his position in favor of his son, Harry N. Helm, who still occupies the place. After resigning his position, the subject of this sketch returned to Monticello, taking charge of the old home and caring for his father in his declining years. He married Miss Emma Smith, a native of Boone county, Illinois, in 1858. Their children are, Harry N., Jessie A., Cora E., Edwin M., William B., and Frederick L.

HENRY HITTER, a native of Germany, was born in the year 1835, emigrating to America in 1860, and locating in the city of New York, where he was employed in a butcher shop till 1869. Then came to Monticello, opening the first meat market in the place, and continues in that business. He married Miss Margaret Yenigen, of New York City, in 1861. Their children are, Rosa, Henry, Frederick, Augusta, Charles, William, Victor, and John.

IRA HOAR, a native of Worcester county, Massachusetts, was born in the year 1803. He is one of the first settlers of this township, locating in Monticello, in section thirty-four, in the fall of 1854, where he still resides, engaged in farming, which has been his life's business. His wife was Miss Sarah Wagner. Their children are, Alfred W., Mary, William H., and Susan. His two sons, Alfred W., and William H., are farmers and live in the neighborhood. Alfred W. married Miss Josephine Jackson in 1869. They have two children; Charles A., and Arthur C. William H. is single and lives with his parents.

WILLIAM IRVING was born in the village of Cocheaton, Sullivan county, New York, on the 10th of July, 1809. He was engaged in farming and lumbering, until coming to Minnesota in 1857. He located on a farm in the township of Monticello, where he has given his attention to farming. He married Miss Emily G. Mitchell in 1834, and they had three children, his wife dying in 1848. He was married again to Miss Sarah E. Calkin, who died in 1871, leaving two children. His present wife was Mrs. Lucy A. Smith. They, also, have two children.



CHARLES C. JACKSON, a native of Monticello, New York, was born on the 16th of November, 1852. The family moved to Pennsylvania, while Charles was a small boy, and in 1867, came to Monticello, Minnesota, where they located on a farm. Here Charles grew to manhood, and in 1873, went to the Red Lake Agency, Beltrami county, remaining six years, farming and teaming for the Government. In 1879, he returned to Monticello; bought the Merchant's Hotel, refitting, furnishing, and conducting the same till the fall of 1881. He married Miss Isabel Allen, daughter of Dr. C. P. Allen, now located at White Earth Agency, Becker county, on the 30th of November, 1876.

CHARLES JANNEY, a native of Lincolnshire, England, was born on the 9th of November, 1838. At the age of eighteen years, he emigrated to Canada, and in 1859, removed to Detroit, Michigan, where he followed milling for about five years. Then moved to Terre Haute, Indiana, for one year, then to Neoga, Illinois, working at milling till 1871, when he came to Monticello, and built a flouring mill. His two sons are connected with him in business, the firm name being Janney and Sons. He married Miss Angeline A. Woods, of East Washington, New Hampshire, in 1859. Their children are, Frank D., William R., and Gertie A.

DAVID JACKSON was born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, in the year 1815. In 1836, he went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he clerked in a store for one year, then to Hannibal, where he engaged in merchandising for eighteen years. Six years of this time he was Sheriff of the county. Then for about twenty years was engaged in a mercantile line in Nebraska, after which, in 1875, he came to Monticello, where he now lives, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

HENRY KREIS, a native of Baltimore county, Maryland, was born on the 15th of June, 1821. He attended school in the city of Baltimore till sixteen years of age, when he went to learn the tobaccoist business, following it for two years; then learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for twenty-three years. In 1846, he entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, building bridges and doing general carpenter work on their line till 1856. Then came to Monticello, where he has since resided, working at his trade till the fall of 1862, when he was elected County Auditor, which position he held till 1871. Then engaged in the hardware business, which he

still continues. He has been Justice of the Peace for the last ten years, also Chairman of the board of Supervisors for the last eight years, and is a member of the school board, and President of the Village Council. Was married on the 18th of June, 1844, to Miss Mary A. Burns, of Baltimore. Their children are, Anna E., Charles E., Robert B., Kate A., Emma R., Laura A., Minnie, Cora B., and Harry L.

CHARLES E. KREIS was born in Elysville, Howard county, Maryland, in the year 1848. He came with the family to Monticello, Minnesota, in 1856. He learned the printing business with George Gray of this place, and was employed for about three years on the "Daily Times" at Minneapolis. He was appointed Postmaster at Monticello, in 1881. Mr. Kreis was married to Miss Sarah A. Helm, of Monticello, on the 19th of October, 1875. They have one child, Laurence B.

ROBERT B. KREIS, son of Henry Kreis, was born in Elysville, Maryland, in the year 1850. The family moved to Baltimore when Robert was a small child, and in 1856, to Monticello, Minnesota, where he has since resided. He commenced clerking in the merchandise business when young, and in 1872, engaged in the hardware business in company with his father. This copartnership continued about four years when the partnership was dissolved, and he has since carried on a general store in the place. He married Miss Sadie B. Wellcome, on the 19th of October, 1875. The fruit of this union is two children; Herbert R. and Robert R.

AUSTIN KEEN, a native of Paris, Oxford county, Maine, was born on the 28th of February, 1815. His father was a carpenter and joiner and lumberman, and also carried on a farm. Austin grew to manhood, and for some time after attaining his majority, engaged more or less in the various kinds of labor offered by the several different callings named, under his father's management, until 1858. After this date Mr. Keen moved to Anoka, Minnesota, where he was lumbering and farming for nine years, when he removed to Monticello and was engaged in agricultural pursuits for the same length of time. Then began the manufacture of wagons, which business he still continues. He married Miss Lucy J. Lovell, of Somerset county, Maine, on the 10th of March, 1840. Their children are, Alvin F., Minta, Melissa, and Laura.

JOHN H. LONGFELLOW, a native of Newburyport, Massachusetts, was born on the 3d of June,





1850. He came to Monticello in 1869, and has made house painting his business through life. He married Miss Susan J. Prime on the 24th of December, 1873. They have two children, Albert R. and Samuel H. His wife died on the 23d of January, 1879.

JOHN LUTHY was born in Switzerland in the year 1823. He came to America in 1853, and after remaining about five years in Illinois, came to Minnesota, and spent two years in St. Anthony and the same length of time in St. Paul, being employed at the trade of harness making. He came to Monticello in 1866, and has since carried on a harness shop at this place. He has been Treasurer of the Grange for ten years, and Treasurer of the town for one year. He married Sophia Marti in 1858. They had two children, Frank and Emma. Mrs. Luthy died in 1865. He married a second wife, Miss Anna Marti, in 1866. They have seven children; Frank, Louie, Matilda, Minnie, Charles, Albert, George, and Ella.

LEWIS LINDLEY, a native of New York State, was born in the year 1817. At the age of eighteen he went to Michigan, where he lived till 1859. He then came to Minnesota, locating about two miles below the village of Monticello on a farm, where he remained for six years. Then went to Michigan for two years; after which he returned to Monticello township, and bought a farm in section sixteen, on which he lived till 1876. He then removed to Rockford for about two years, after which he again returned to Monticello, and now lives in the village. He owns land in the township and gives his attention to farming interests. He married Miss Sylvia Fuller in 1839. They have two children, John E. and Phoebe.

TOBIAS G. MEALEY, a native of Charlotte county, New Brunswick, was born on the 5th of August, 1823. He enjoyed the advantages of common schools, participating in the labor of a farm, and lumbering till 1845, when he engaged in merchandising till 1849. After this date he went to California, engaging in various interests, such as mining, merchandising, building, and lumbering till 1852, when he returned to his native place and engaged in farming and lumbering for three years. In 1855 he came to Minnesota, landing at St. Anthony on the 15th of November. In January following he came to Monticello and bought an interest in the first saw mill erected in the village. The following March he sold the mill and went into business with Martin Fox, in which he con-

tinued until the fall of 1858, when he sold his interest to H. F. Lillibridge, after which he engaged in farming for a time on his land near the village. In 1863, Mr. Mealey and Mr. Bradford bought out Mr. Lillibridge, since which time the firm names have been, Mealey & Bradford, Mealey & Longfellow, T. G. Mealey, and now it is T. G. Mealey & Son. Mr. Mealey has filled the position of Justice of the Peace, and Probate Judge. In 1872, was elected a member of the House of Representatives, and in 1873, was elected Senator from the thirty-second district, and in 1875, refused a nomination for the same office. In 1877, he accepted the nomination and was elected Senator for two years, but owing to the adoption of the biennial session law, only served one year, but in 1878, was elected to the same office for four years. In 1877, he gave his attention to the then imperfect tax law, and was instrumental in securing our present statute, commonly called the "iron-clad tax law." He was a delegate to the St. Louis convention which nominated Tilden, and was one of the democratic nominees for Elector in 1880. Was a republican up to the fall of 1872, but in the Greeley campaign, went over to the democratic party, and has co-operated with that party since that time. He married Miss Catharine J. Prescott in 1855. They have five children, two sons and three daughters.

ALEXANDER MITCHELL, a native of Maine, was born on the 16th of November, 1808. When a small boy, the family moved to Monroe, Maine, where Alexander took part in farming labor. In the fall of 1854, he went to Illinois, where he remained till the spring of 1855, when he came to Monticello township, locating on section sixteen, where he lived till 1862; then sold his farm and bought another in section ten of the same township, where he now resides. He married Miss Jerusha Webber on the 2d of November, 1836. Their living children are, Frank, Henry, Albert, Augustus, Laura, Fremont, Dora, and Edward.

AUGUSTUS MITCHELL, a native of Bridgewater, Grafton county, New Hampshire, was born on the 24th of May, 1829. He enjoyed the advantages of a farmer's boy in school and social privileges. In 1854, he came to Minnesota, locating on section twenty-eight, in the township of Monticello, where he still resides. He married Miss Emeline L. Hanaford on the 9th of January, 1852. Their children are, Gertrude, Hortense, Lucretia E., Eliza E., and Lester.



ROYAL MARSH, a native of Vermont, was born on the 26th of April, 1815. When a youth the family moved to Tompkins county, New York, where he worked on a farm till seventeen years of age. Then learned the blacksmith trade, and in 1855, came to Monticello, where he opened a shop, doing the first work in this line in the county. He subsequently located on section twenty-seven, where he still resides. He married Miss Mary A. Scott, of New York, December 12th, 1839. Their children are, Calista and Walker.

DANIEL MAST, a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born on the 30th of March, 1841. He emigrated to America with his parents, landing at New York City on the 21st of March, 1847. The family located on a farm thirty miles south of Chicago, Illinois, where they lived till 1872, when they removed to a small place near the old home, where Mr. Mast's mother still lives; his father died on the 15th of October, 1875. Mr. Mast enlisted in Company C, of the One hundredth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, on the 7th of August, 1862. He was wounded at the battle of Chickamanga on the 19th of September, 1863. He laid in the hospital about six weeks, but returned to his regiment in time to participate in the battle of Mission Ridge. He was in seventeen engagements besides numerous skirmishes, and was mustered out with the regiment at Chicago on the 2d of July, 1865. He returned to his home in Illinois where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for some years. In the spring of 1872, he came to Minnesota, and bought a farm in Monticello township, where he lived for three years. Then sold out, and after a short time, bought one hundred and sixty acres in sections twenty and twenty-one, where he now resides. He has one of the finest farms in the town. Mr. Mast married Miss Caroline Schramm, who was born in Ohio. Their children are, William L., Matilda M., John A. L., and Anna O.

HORATIO M. PRIME, a native of the state of New York, was born on the 4th of March, 1841. When he was about fifteen years of age the family removed to Monticello, Minnesota, where Horatio worked on a farm for about five years; then went to St. Paul to learn the harness maker's trade, where he remained till 1862. After this date he went south, and was in the employ of the Government, working at his trade. Returning to this State, he worked at different places till the spring of 1880, when he returned to Monticello

and opened a harness shop, which he is now operating. He married Miss Sarah Lowe, of Winona, Minnesota, on the 1st of January, 1869. Their children are, Jesse L. and Mary.

LEMUEL S. PRATT was born in Hebron, Oxford county, Maine, on the 16th of April, 1818. He engaged in farming and lumbering until 1850, when he removed to Iowa. After living six years on a farm in Allamakee county, he removed to Isanti county, Minnesota. Was one of the organizers of Isanti county in 1857, and also one of the first settlers of that county. In 1858, he removed to Anoka, where he resided till 1866, working on a farm. Then removed to Monticello and located on section fifteen, where he still resides. He married Miss Nancy McClure, of Maine, on the 15th of March, 1844. Their living children are, Lemuel W., Thomas F., Ada F., Martha E. and Maria M., (twins) and Charles G.

JOHN B. PARVIN was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of January, 1823. When he was seventeen years of age, the family moved to Chester Hill, Pennsylvania. Soon after, John went to Williamsburg, New York, and was clerking in a store till 1846, when he enlisted and went to the Mexican war, serving two years in California. After receiving his discharge, remained in California until 1849, then returned to Williamsburg, engaging in merchandising for one year; then went to Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, working on a farm till 1857, when he came to Monticello, and was farming until 1862. He then enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. He returned to Monticello and farmed till 1872; then moved to Wadena county for two years, after which he returned to Monticello, where he now resides. He married Miss Sarah How, of Maine, in 1870. Mrs. Parvin has a millinery store in the village.

GEORGE W. RIGGS was born on the 7th of May, 1827, in the state of New York. When he was ten years of age, the family removed to Iowa, where George grew to manhood and worked on a farm till twenty-eight years of age. In 1855, he came to Minnesota, and located on section twelve, in Lower Town, building a shanty in which the family lived one year. The next year he built his present house and bought an interest of his brother in the ferry, which has since been owned and operated by the brothers. He has been President of the Lower Town organization for a number of years, and served as a member of the School





Board. He married Miss Almira D. Bell, of Dubuque county, Iowa, in 1853. Their children are, Barney B., Franklin C., George W., Charles L., Charlotte L., William R., and Olive B.

ASHLEY C. RIGGS, a native of Allegany county, New York, was born on the 14th of September, 1828. In 1852, he came to Minnesota, and was engaged in bridge-building through the summer. In the fall he went to Cold Spring City, Stearns county, where he spent the winter trading with the Indians. The following spring he went to Big Lake, Sherburne county, and established a trading post, but after one year, came to Monticello and located on section twelve, Lower Town. He built the first ferry across the river in 1854, of which he still owns one-half. In company with Moritzious Weissberger, surveyed and platted the village of Moritzious in 1854. For some years he practiced law, and has been a Justice of the Peace. Married Miss Deborah Houghton on the 26th of May, 1862. Their children are, Eli H., Andrew J., James H., Burt, Alma, Ashley C., Annie, and Heber K.

JOHN B. RICH, a native of Waldo, Maine, was born in the year 1826. When he was twelve years of age, the family moved to Penobscot county, where he worked on a farm, and afterwards taught school for a few winters, till he came to Monticello, Minnesota, in 1854. He took a claim in the township and lived on it till 1871. Then for a few years engaged in freighting and staging. In 1875, opened a restaurant and confectionery in the village of Monticello. He was Town Clerk for one year, in 1876. He married Miss Sophia K. Spaulding, on the 26th of September, 1855. Their children are, Mary L., Edson C., Carrie E., Mabel L., and Edna.

JAMES NEWTON STACY, son of Ezra and Clarissa (Gleason) Stacy, is a native of North Adams, Massachusetts, where his birth occurred on the 10th of March, 1839. When about six years of age, he removed with his parents to Virginia, now West Virginia, where he received such educational advantages as the common schools afforded, meantime assisting his father in farming and lumbering. In 1856, the family came to this State and located in the present town of Franklin, in this county, and during the first three years James spent a portion of his time in explorations, and also made considerable improvement on his claim, which he afterward secured by pre-emption and purchase. In 1859, he gave his attention to sur-

veying, from which he was diverted by the events of the late civil war, and at the time of the Sioux massacre, in 1862, entered the First Regiment of Mounted Rangers as a Sergeant of Company C; served one year, the period of enlistment, then re-enlisted in the Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, where he held a Lieutenant's commission in Company F, until mustered out with the regiment in July, 1865. He then returned to Monticello, and two years later engaged in mercantile life, to which the next ten years of his life were devoted. He next engaged in real estate, loan, and insurance business, still finding time to act well his part in local matters, and to assist in controlling the movements of the Republican party, of which he is the acknowledged leader in Wright county. He has been twice elected to the State Senate, and during the first term introduced the bill which afterwards became a law, equalizing the salaries of county officers. He was also elected Representative in 1878, and during his whole public life, has been prominent in reform measures, and has labored zealously for the benefit of his constituency. In 1880, he was elected Auditor of Wright county, by the largest majority ever given a candidate in the history of the county. In February, 1872, Mr. Stacy was united in matrimony with a daughter of John Granger, of Naperville, Illinois, who was a widow at time of this union.

HENRY STOKES, a native of England, was one of the first settlers of Monticello township. He and family located near Pelican Lake, on section thirty. Soon, three brothers settled in the same neighborhood. He married Miss Elizabeth Jeffreys; their children are, Charlotte, Charles, Elizabeth, Louisa, George H., and Emma.

GEORGE H. STOKES, a son of Henry and Elizabeth Stokes, has been a resident of this town from boyhood. He married Miss Fannie Elletson, on the 25th of December, 1870. They had one child, Harry. Mrs Stokes died in March, 1872. He married a second wife, Miss Mary Elletson, on the 16th of November, 1874. Their children are, Nettie, Francis, and Louisa.

CHARLES SYDLINKER was born in Maine, on the 3d of December, 1838. He grew to manhood on a farm, enjoying the advantages of a country school. He came to Monticello township, in 1855, and became employed on a farm. In 1861, he enlisted in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three and one-half years. After returning from the army, bought one hundred and fifty



acres in section twenty-nine, where he still resides. He married Miss Elnora Keen, March 20th, 1865. Their children are, Fred L., May D., George W., and Cecil.

JAMES STOKES, one of the first settlers of Monticello township, was born in England, on the 25th of May, 1830. He emigrated to the United States in 1851, stopping three years in New York State, butchering and farming; then about two years in Iowa following the same business; then to Minnesota, with a Government surveying party for eight months; after which he located on section twenty-five, near Pelican Lake, following farming, with the exception of three years that he was in the hotel business, until 1873, when he moved to Monticello, and opened a meat market, in which business he still continues. He married Harriet Short in 1855. They have five children; Edwin, Clara J., Lilla A, Hattie M., and Ince D.

NORRIS REUBEN STOWELL was born near Portland Maine, on the 20th of December, 1817. His parents moved to New Hampshire, where Norris R. lived till twenty-one years of age. Then engaged in coasting from Maine to Philadelphia. He went to the West Indies on a voyage, and in 1852, to California, for the purpose of gold-mining, but was obliged to return after one year on account of declining health. He came to Monticello, Minnesota, in 1865, where he has lived to this writing. He married Mrs. Olive Hamlet in 1842. Their children are, Nicholas R. and Joseph N.

WILLIAM TUBBS, a native of Athens, Ohio, was born on the 4th of August, 1833. At the age of eighteen he left the parental roof, and for three years was on a trading expedition in the South. In 1856, he roamed over parts of the West; in 1858, was in the lumber country of Minnesota; and in 1859, took a claim in Isanti county, where he was County Auditor from 1860 to 1863. He then removed to Elk River, Sherburne county, where he remained till 1870, and for four years was Auditor of that county. In the fall of 1870, he came to Monticello, and built the first flouring mill in the place, operating it for four years, and then was elected Auditor and served till 1880.

JOHN W. TENNISON, a native of Nova Scotia, was born on the 19th of November, 1838. The family moved to Canada in 1852, and in 1855, came to Anoka, Minnesota, where the subject of this sketch lived till 1876, with the exception of four years spent in the mines of Nevada. Up to this period of his life, he was chiefly occupied in

farming and lumbering. In 1876, he came to Monticello and engaged in a flouring mill for two years, since which time he has been doing a general merchandise business in company with R. B. Kreis. He married Miss Chloe A. Gould in 1869. Their children are, Mary F., Clara A., Edna E., and Lucia M.

JOHN W. WALKER, a native of the state of New York, was born on the 13th of January, 1840. His father being a carpenter, John learned the trade while a boy. When sixteen years of age, he enlisted in the Sixth New York Heavy Artillery, serving for three years. At the age of nineteen, came to Minnesota, remaining at Silver Creek for one year, thence to Monticello, working at his trade till this writing. He married Miss Hulda E. Ridley, of Silver Creek, on the 1st of September, 1867. Their children are, George W., Katie E., Nettie A., and John L.

MICHAEL WELLCOME, a native of Minot, Cumberland county, Maine, was born in the year 1815. When he was nine years of age the family moved to Newport. His educational privileges were quite limited. At the age of twenty-three, he embraced the Christian religion, and at the age of twenty-four went into the mercantile business in the city of Hallowell, Kennebec county, Maine. At the age of twenty-five, was licensed by the Methodist Episcopal Church to preach the gospel. He traveled on a circuit for five years, when he withdrew from the Methodist church. In 1846, he moved to Wisconsin, bought a farm, continuing in the ministry, building up three large congregations, of which he was pastor for fifteen years. In 1866, he moved to Garden City, Blue Earth county, Minnesota. Here he organized a church, of which he was the pastor for five years. In 1873, was elected Presiding Elder for the district of Ottawa, by the Second Advent Church. In 1876, he moved to Monticello, and is now pastor of the Advent Christian Church of Monticello. In 1877, was elected Presiding Elder for the district of St. Paul by the latter denomination.

JOHN H. WILSON, a native of New York, was born on the 21st of May, 1834. When he was a small boy, the family removed to Canada, where he learned the blacksmith trade. In 1864, moved to Bay City, Michigan, where he engaged in lumbering for three years, then removed to Buffalo, Wright county, and was employed on a farm, spending a portion of his time in Minneapolis, at his trade till 1877, when he moved to Monticello,





where he has since lived, engaged in the blacksmith business. He married Miss Mary A. Ramsey in September, 1855. Their children are, Anna, Eliza, John, and Isabella.

EDWIN E. WALDEN, a native of Connecticut, was born on the 21st of January, 1837. When the subject of this sketch had seen but four summers, the family moved to Worcester county, Massachusetts. Here he learned the carpenter trade, and followed building till 1856, when he journeyed westward, locating in Monticello, Minnesota. His farm is in section twenty-six, which occupies his first attention, working at his trade as circumstances permit. He married Miss Mary A. Ross, of Mobile, Alabama, in 1869. They have three children; William L., Florence N., and Nellie.

JOHN WHITCOMB was born in Dixmont, Maine, on the 16th of September, 1830. He learned the carpenter trade, which he followed until he came to Monticello in 1855. He located on section twenty-one, where he still resides. He married Miss Irene E. Howe, of his native State, on the 1st of January, 1859. Their children are, Delia E., Mary, John H., and Noyes H.

EMIL WETZEL was born in Baden, Germany, in the year 1844. He emigrated to America in 1869, spending one year in Chicago, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and St. Cloud, Minnesota. In 1870, he came to Monticello and engaged in the jewelry business, which he still continues. He married Miss Zoraide Hanaford in 1870. Their children are, Pansie, Arthur U., Emil, and Albert.

## MIDDLEVILLE.

### CHAPTER CXXIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—ORGANIZATION—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Middleville lies in the southwestern portion of the county, and embraces an area of nearly 23,000 acres, 2,906 being under cultivation. The surface was originally covered with timber, but the hand of civilization has removed many acres of the primeval forest to give place to the golden fields of wheat and other grains. The North Fork of Crow river crosses the north half of this town in an easterly direction, and it is otherwise well

watered by the numerous lakes which dot its surface. Of these, Howard and Smith lakes are the largest, both lying in the southern part of the town.

The first settlers in this town were August Enke and George Reimmuth, who came in April, 1856, and took claims on the north shore of Howard Lake. They erected their cabins, and soon after, brought their families to the new homes, and still reside there. J. L. King came in May of the same year, and also settled on the bank of Howard Lake, about a mile southeast of Reimmuth. He still lives near the spot where he first settled. Henry Boam was the first settler in the northern part of the town, he having also made his claim on section ten, in the spring of 1856. This is now one of the most populous towns in the county, the population, in 1880, numbering 1,174 persons.

The St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad crosses the southwest corner of the town, with a station at the little village of Smith Lake. This village began its growth soon after the railroad passed through, and is one of the most prosperous little towns in this part of the county.

Middleville was organized in April, 1858, and the first election held at the house of J. L. King, who then lived where the village of Howard Lake now stands, which is just across the south line in Victor township. The first officers chosen were: Supervisors, J. L. King, Chairman, Edwin Brewster, and James Lobdell; Clerk, M. V. Cochran; Justices of the Peace, A. E. Cochran and Timothy Lowell; Assessor, George Doerfler; and Constables, C. Tanner and Abraham Freeman.

The present town of Victor was a part of Middleville prior to its organization in 1866.

The first school was held at Howard Lake, in the present town of Victor, a notice of which appears in the chapter devoted to that town.

The first death was that of Miss Custis King, a daughter of J. L. King, who died on the 13th of June, 1869.

The first child born was Emma Enke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Enke, and now Mrs. Jones, of Howard Lake.

From the Agricultural Report of 1880 we glean the following as the product of the town for that year: Wheat, 36,292 bushels; oats, 10,351 bushels; corn, 20,735 bushels; barley, 2,165 bushels; rye, 8 bushels; buckwheat, 46 bushels; potatoes, 4,580 bushels; beans, 86 bushels; sugar-cane, 4,665 gallons; cultivated hay, 130 tons; wild hay, 1,193



tons; tobacco, 477 pounds; wool, 2,406 pounds; butter, 21,781 pounds; and honey, 474 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM RILEY ANDERS is a native of Fayette county, Ohio, born on the 25th of March, 1852. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in August, 1879, came to Minnesota; rented a farm for one year, and in October of the following year purchased his present land. Miss Catherine Bowers, a native of Ohio, became his wife on the 8th of January, 1873. They have four children; Arthur J., Charles W., America B., and an infant not yet named.

HENRY BOAM, the first settler in this town, was born in Grafton county, New Hampshire, on the 10th of November, 1810. When he was fourteen years of age his parents removed to New York, where our subject received his education and followed farming. In 1845, he moved to Huron county, Ohio, and was employed by a railroad company as station agent for a number of years. While out with Darling's surveying party in 1856, he pre-empted his present farm. During the Sioux war of 1862, Mr. Boam served for seventy days in what is known as the "Minnesota Scouts," for which he received pay. At the end of his term of service he returned to his farm at Middleville, and has since held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk, Assessor, and Chairman of the board of Supervisors. Miss Amy Bibbins, a native of Connecticut, became his wife in 1830, and in December, 1848, died, and was buried in Huron County, Ohio. She bore him eight children; two boys and one girl are still living. The maiden name of his present wife was Sarah Southard, a native of Vermont. Of five children, the result of this union, but two girls are living.

AARON E. COCHRAN, a native of Wetzel county, West Virginia, was born on the 7th of October, 1811. His boyhood days were spent in Morrison county, Virginia, and on the 3d of July, 1856, he came to Minnesota, and located at Howard Lake. During the Indian outbreak of 1862, he was with a party under Captain Sturges, guarding the frontier. It was Mr. Cochran who found the Dustin family after their massacre. He came to the village of Smith Lake in 1876, in which he owns twenty-seven lots. Was married in 1831, to Miss Lavinia Lartel, a native of Virginia. Of nine children, the result of this union, six are living, two boys and four girls.

JAMES Z. COCHRAN is a native of Davis county, Ohio, but when quite young, his parents removed to Wetzel county, West Virginia. In 1857, they came to Minnesota and located in the town of Victor, Wright county, where our subject remained till enlisting in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, Company C, under Captain Henderson. Was with several scouting parties after the Indians, and mustered out, at Fort Snelling, on the 21st of October, 1863. He then came to Howard Lake and was engaged by the Government in carrying the mail, having five or six routes. After an engagement of about seven years in the latter business, he was dealing in real estate in St. Cloud, for a time. Came to his present home in the village of Smith Lake, in 1879, and has since been engaged in the real estate business. Miss Allie Denny, a native of Indiana, became his wife in 1875. They have three children.

ELIJAH DOBLE is a native of Somerset county, Maine, born on the 2d of April, 1828. His native State claimed him as a resident till the fall of 1856, when he came to Clearwater, Wright county, and remained twelve years. Since March, 1868, Middleville township has been his place of residence. He has devoted a portion of his time to his trade (carpenter), and owns three lots and a hotel in the village of Smith Lake. Mr. Doble served in a home company during the Indian outbreak. Miss Cynthia Dayton, who was born in Nova Scotia, and when quite young moved to Maine, where she grew to womanhood, became his wife in 1853. This union has been blessed with four children, three of whom are living, two boys and one girl. The daughter is married, one son is employed on the railroad, and one on a farm.

HENRY H. GRAY (deceased) was born near Raleigh, North Carolina, on the 23d of April, 1828. He received his education in the city, after which he taught school for a few years. In 1861, removed to Indiana and located on a farm near Indianapolis. After a residence of several years in the latter place, he came to Middleville township, and purchased a farm on section fourteen. In 1853, Mr. Gray was married to Miss Susan Whicker, who was also born in North Carolina. Six children were born to them, three girls and three boys. Two sons are married, one living at home and the other on an adjoining farm; the two oldest daughters are also married and live in this county. On the 9th of August, 1881, Mr. Gray died and was buried at the Howard Lake cemetery.





NATHAN H. KNOWLES was born in the village of Burlington, Vermont, on the 27th of March, 1818. When our subject was but an infant his parents removed to Canada, where he received part of his education. Returned to the States and entered a high school, first as a scholar, then became a teacher, after which he went to Philadelphia and studied medicine a few months. Then, returning to his native State, he took a thorough course, attending lectures in Castleton College, in Castleton, and graduated in the class of 1865. In the same year, he came west, living in Iowa until coming to Minnesota a few years ago. Has been in the practice of his profession until within the last year when he was obliged to give it up on account of ill-health. Since then, has resided on a farm in Middleville township. Mr. Knowles has been married three times. His present wife was Mrs. Mary A. Dix, a native of Illinois. They have five children living at home.

JOHN L. KING was born in Monongalia county, West Virginia, on the 19th of June, 1821. When he was but three years of age, his parents removed to Tyler county, Virginia, where John remained until coming west. In 1856, he located a farm on section thirty-five, Middleville township, and in 1876, moved to his present home in section thirty-four. Mr. King was among the number to afford assistance to the Dustin family at the time of the massacre. In 1849, Miss Mary Cochran, a native of Harrison county, West Virginia, became his wife. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living. The oldest daughter, Victoria C., married William H. Marsh, now deceased, and lives in Montrose. His son Cyrus M., was the first white male child born in this town, his birth dating the 2d of August, 1859. He graduated from the Howard Lake high-school in the class of 1878, entered as sub-freshman in the class of 1880, and is preparing to attend the State University at Minneapolis. His son Octavius B. is farming near Wilmar, and the remainder of the family are at home.

JOSEPH C. KIMBALL is a native of Somerset county, Maine, born on the 4th of February, 1832. At the age of sixteen years, he came to Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and was engaged in the lumber business and farming until coming to Minnesota in 1860. Resided in Maine Prairie, Stearns county, then in Swift county, and in 1878, came to this place, where he has since resided. His mother, now eighty-four years of age, lives with him and keeps house. Mr. Kimball served in the

war, enlisting in Company G, of the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

M. J. MORGAN is a native of Wetzel county, West Virginia, his birth dating the 5th of January, 1837. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and came to Minnesota, locating in Watertown, Wright county, in November, 1868, and came to Middleville township in 1875. Miss Mary D. Tomlinson, a native of West Virginia, born on the 17th of March, 1843, became his wife in 1861. Her mother, now seventy-five years of age, resides with them.

JOHN S. PARKER was born on the 18th of August, 1836, in Warren county, Ohio. He remained in his native State until 1846, when he removed to Indiana, and was engaged in farming and in stock speculation. Enlisted, in Indianapolis, in Company B, of the One Hundred and forty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Parker learned the carpenter's trade, at which he has worked about twenty years. Came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1866, and in March of the following year, to this place, locating a farm on section fourteen. Has been Town Supervisor a number of terms since coming here. Was married to Miss Martha C. Wicker, a native of Indiana, in 1860. They have six children; four boys and two girls.

BARTON W. RICKERSON was born near Covington, Kentucky, on the 8th of January, 1849. His parents came to St. Paul, Minnesota, where our subject received his education. In 1861, they removed to a farm above Minneapolis, and four years later, to Middleville township, where they remained until within the past few years. The subject of this sketch was with General Terry's expedition in Dakota, for the purpose of building forts, though they had several skirmishes with the Indians. After building forts at Devil's Lake and several other places, they returned to St. Paul and Mr. Rickerson went to Minneapolis, where he was employed in the mills for a time. He located his farm in this place in 1876, and has since made it his home. Was married in August, 1872, to Miss Mary Knowles, daughter of Dr. N. H. Knowles. They have three children; one boy and two girls.

EDWARD ROBERTS, a native of Ohio, was born about the year 1826. Was reared to agricultural pursuits, and also worked at the gunsmith's trade for a time. When he was fourteen years old, his parents moved to Grant county, Indiana, where

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our subject lived for about thirty years. In 1869, he removed to Miami county, Kansas, and lived until coming to his present farm in 1875. Mr. Roberts has been married three times; the maiden name of his present wife was Martha Ann McDonald, the marriage occurring in 1867. She has borne him eight children, six of whom are living.

EPHRAIM STOUT was born in Randolph county, Indiana. His parents removed to Hamilton county when he was but five years of age. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and resided with his father until coming to Minnesota in 1865. For a time after coming to the State, he was engaged in Minneapolis at carpenter work. Purchased a farm on section four, Middleville township, on which he lived seven years, and after living in the village a time, came to his present farm in the spring of 1876. Has been Treasurer of the town since his residence here. Miss T. Phenix, who was born in Hamilton county, Indiana, in 1840, became his wife in 1856. They have had five children; the oldest daughter was drowned in Crow river in October, 1870. There are three boys and one girl living.

LEANDER WATSON was born in Virginia, on the 11th of June, 1842. He received his education in his native town, and resided in the State till he came to Minnesota, in October, 1865. He lived in Montrose for about a year before coming to his present farm, which is situated on section thirty. Before coming to this State, Mr. Watson served in the war, enlisting on the 4th of December, 1862, in Company B, of the West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. Was promoted to Corporal and mustered out on the 3d of April, 1864, at Wheeling, West Virginia. He was united in marriage with Miss Julia Ann Martin, a native of Indiana, born on the 31st of August, 1857. This union has been blessed with two daughters.

DANIEL A. WYMAN was born in Somerset county, Maine, on the 16th of March, 1837. His father died when he was eleven years old, and at the age of seventeen, he went with a party to the coast of Africa, on a whaling expedition. After his return to this country, he resided in his native State, engaged in agricultural pursuits until coming to the West in 1858. Located first in Chippewa county, Wisconsin, where he was in the lumber business. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and participated in many engagements. Was disabled for a time in consequence of a wound received by

a ball, which first struck a button on his coat and thus lessened its force, which might otherwise have cost him his life. After a service of four years and two months, he was mustered out at Camp Randall, Wisconsin, and was in the lumber business till 1874. Then went to Florida, and for a few years, devoted his time to raising oranges, after which he visited the eastern States, and subsequently came to this place, purchasing his present farm of N. C. Rickerson. Miss Melissa Jones became his wife in 1866. They have no children of their own, but have adopted one.

## FRANKLIN.

### CHAPTER CXXX.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—VILLAGE HISTORY—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—SOCIETIES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Franklin is the extreme southeastern town in Wright county, lying south of Rockford, and bounded east by Hennepin county, south by Carver county, and west by the towns of Marysville and Woodland.

The North Fork of Crow river forms the northern boundary line, while the South Fork enters from the south in section thirty-four, flows in a northerly course, varying to the east, forming the eastern boundary near the northeast corner, and uniting with the North Fork about two miles above the village of Rockford. The surface is uneven, and heavily timbered, and the soil a rich loam or clay, with clay subsoil.

The principal lakes are, Fountain, in the western part, reaching into the town of Woodland, Cedar, in the central part, and Rice, in the southeastern part, extending a short distance into Carver county.

The first two permanent settlers were James P. Lyle and James Patten, who came here in 1855. They came by the newly opened road to the now defunct city of Greenwood, from which point they followed the river to where they selected claims, which, when surveyed, located Mr. Lyle on sections eleven, twelve, and thirteen, and Mr. Patten on section one. Soon after, in July, they were joined by J. C. Ellis, who settled on sections eleven and twelve, and S. Patten, who selected a home on section two. They were from Nova Scotia, as was





also David White, who came in December, 1855, and soon after took a claim on section fourteen, where he now lives, though during the winter of his arrival he lived with Mr. Lyle, who had built a comfortable, though not massive claim shanty. About a year later Luther and V. Walter came from Maine, and selected claims, the former on section thirteen, and the latter on section two.

Other settlers followed soon after, and in later years, when the shriek of the locomotive awoke the echoes in the yet scarce broken forest, an influx of immigration followed which soon gave the town a large, as well as thrifty population. The first birth in the town was Annie Lyle, on the 20th of May, 1870.

Mr. White and J. C. Ellis built their claim shanties together, one-half of the building situated on each man's claim, and in this company habitation the first school was taught about 1858, by Mr. Ellis, who was paid by subscription. A log schoolhouse was afterward built near the mill, in which Miss Stella Strickland taught the first term. In 1871, the present building was erected—a substantial two-story building in which two departments are maintained, though it is not a graded school. The school is now in charge of Mr. S. Mufley, who also taught in the winter of 1880-81.

The first religious exercises were held in the hotel then owned by J. F. Powers, an old and highly respected citizen still a resident of the village of Delano. This was in 1869, and the preaching was soon followed by the organization of a Methodist society under the ministerial guidance of Rev. Mr. Cressey. In course of time the society secured the use of "Lucas Hall," which was used as a place of worship until the completion of their church edifice, about 1873.

A Presbyterian Church was organized about the same time, the first meetings being held at the house of David White, the minister being Rev. J. H. Hunter. They afterwards met for worship in a building constructed by workmen on the railroad, and used by them for quarters while working in this vicinity. Rev. J. Brick was pastor during this time. Later, they secured the privilege of Lucas Hall, and about 1870 or '71 their present house of worship was erected. Rev. Charles Thayer succeeded Mr. Brick about seven years ago.

A Catholic Church—a small log building reared by the united efforts of the early settlers—was built something over a mile west of the present

village, not later than 1862 or '63. Father Magnus is named as the first priest who celebrated mass here. In 1873, the society having made large accessions to its original numbers, the old log chapel was abandoned, and the one now standing in the village became their fane. A parish house was built in 1875, both this and the church being good frame buildings. The present membership of the church is about one hundred and fifty.

The German Lutheran Church was among the early organizations, and a small log building was their place of worship for many years, and until the erection of the neat frame structure completed in 1879. The old church was about four miles from the village, on the Waverly road; the new church is in the village, where regular service has been held since its completion. The present pastor is August Lange, with whose services they have been favored nearly two years.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church is represented here by a Mission established some time ago, meeting in private houses until recently, when the use of the Methodist church was tendered, through the christian courtesy of that society. Their meetings are yet somewhat irregular, having no local pastor. Rev. August Bryngelson has been in charge of this mission about one year. The organization of the society has not yet been perfected.

**VILLAGE HISTORY.**—The location and subsequent development of Delano is due to the building of what is now the Breckenridge Division of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba railroad, the completion of which to this point was the signal for new and rapid developments in this locality. Most of the tract now embraced in the present village of Delano was included in the claim laid out by John C. Ellis in 1855, to which reference has already been made. In 1868, Mr. Ellis sold about twenty acres to Messrs. Breed, Pate, and Atwater, and seventeen acres to Mr. Lyle, besides which he donated six acres to the railroad company for depot grounds. This ground was all platted, and not long after, the remaining portion of Mr. Ellis' original claim was purchased by W. B. Litchfield, and with the other tracts just mentioned, constituted the village of Crow River in 1876, by the provisions of a bill approved February 11th, 1876, which named W. H. Landes, George T. Mulford, and Miner Ball a special committee to post notices for the first election, which



was held on the 19th of February immediately following, resulting in the election of the officers here named: President, George F. Walker; Trustees, Row Brasie, Jacob Kurtz, and Paul Anderson; Recorder, Fred. Brandes; Treasurer, G. P. Schaeffer; Justice, L. H. Rawson; and Constable, Swan Erick. An addition to the original tract was made in 1881, but has not yet been platted, and includes land owned by several different individuals.

The first house built within the limits of the present corporation was that of James P. Lyle, which was also the first in the town. Another, the same year, was a small claim shanty, which has since been removed. In the first, a small stock of goods was kept by William Wasson, about the time of the building of the railroad, which was the first store at this point. Soon after, a commodious building was erected by Frank B. Hopkins, in which he opened a general store, the first prominent business house in the place. About this time Miner Ball erected the building now used as a Bank, in which a second general store was soon opened by Frank Nichols. In another building then erected, Warren Ames opened a saloon.

The name of the village was changed to Delano at an early period of its existence. A Post-office was established in 1869, the name being Crow River Station. The office was kept in the store of F. B. Hopkins, who was appointed Postmaster. His successor was Frank Nichols, during whose term the name of the office was changed to Delano. It has since been kept by W. N. Langford, C. B. Moody, and in February, 1880, Mrs. M. A. Chance was appointed Postmistress, which position she still retains.

In the early winter of 1868, Miner Ball moved one of the old Greenwood buildings to this place, which he fitted for a hotel, and in December of that year it was opened to the public, under the personal supervision and management of J. F. Powers. The original building was 18x26 feet, to which additions were made the following spring. In 1871, the present proprietor, James D. Young, assumed the duties of landlord, which he has since discharged in a manner highly creditable to himself, and has, by extensive building and improvements, made it one of the finest hotels on this line of road.

A weekly newspaper, called the "Big Woods Citizen," was established by Daniel Fish and H. A. Bull, in March, 1872, and in August of that

year, several citizens of the place seemed an interest in it, making it a stock enterprise. The name of the paper was changed to the "Wright County Eagle," the company title being "Eagle Publishing Company," with I. Gutzwiller, Jr., as President. Near the close of 1873, Frank Matchett and Mr. Gutzwiller became sole proprietors, the former assuming editorial charge, which he continued for some time, and in 1877, Mr. Gutzwiller, the present proprietor, assumed the editorial and business management, enlarging the paper in September, 1881, to an eight-column folio, and changing the name to "Delano Eagle."

A flouring mill, with two run of stones, was built in 1869, by Miner Ball and E. D. Barnett, the frame being raised on the 4th of July. The mill has several times changed hands, and is now owned by its original founder, the first named builder. A saw-mill was also built, adjoining the grist mill, the same power, steam, being employed in operating both mills. Two engines were in use, one of twenty-five, and one of forty-five horse-power.

A circular elevator, with storing capacity of 32,000 bushels, was built in 1881, and is operated by an engine of fifteen horse-power. It was built by a company formed of citizens of the village, who now control it.

The Fire Department of Delano is thoroughly organized and equipped, and is justly the special pride of the village. It is composed of "Delano Hook and Ladder Company No. 1," and "Empire Engine and Hose Company No. 1," each company maintaining a separate and independent organization, but under direction of a Chief and First Assistant, elected by the united vote of both companies.

The first practical steps leading to the organization of the pioneer company, was a meeting on the 1st of August, 1876, at the house of John Steffes, who took an active part in the organization. At this meeting an organization was effected, and the following officers elected: Foreman, John Steffes; First Assistant, William Fenkner; Second Assistant, William L. Van Eman; Clerk and Treasurer G. T. Mulford.

John. Morth, Ole O. Erwig, Daniel Fish, and Valentine Eppel constituted a standing Committee, and E. Kurtz was chosen as Steward. It was strictly a Volunteer company, and its organization the outgrowth of the enterprise of its members, which was about twenty-five in number. A





truck was at once ordered, which was made in the village at a cost of eighty dollars, and on the 26th of October the company had its first parade.

Empire Engine and Hose Company No. 1 was organized May 10th, 1880, with a full list of officers, and articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State. The officers elected were: Foreman, H. H. Blum; First Assistant, A. J. Willard; Second Assistant, Swan Erickson; Secretary, C. B. Moody; Treasurer, E. J. Swedback; Steward, O. L. Billings. The Village Council ordered an engine, which, on arrival, was not such as ordered, and was refused. Another was purchased, however, and on the 22d of April, 1881, the company, now provided with the necessary outfit, met and held a new election, and were given charge of the equipage. The village afterward purchased the material of the other company, and now own all, and have built a cistern reservoir of six hundred barrels capacity, with others in prospect.

The secret societies of Delano are as follows:

Centennial Lodge No. 127, A. F. and A. M., was instituted February 19th, 1876, with the following officers: F. S. Swartz, W. M.; W. L. Van Eman, S. W.; George Mulford, J. W.; Miner Ball, Sec.; G. Roush, Treas.; J. Ball, S. D.; J. Sherry, J. D.; W. Lewis, S. S.; and P. Martin, Tyler.

An Odd Fellows lodge was organized in January, 1881, with name and number of Delano Lodge No. 80, and with the following officers: A. Y. Eaton, N. G.; T. Kerr, V. G.; James P. Lyle, Treas.; — Monroe, Sec.; and D. A. Freeman, P. G.

The Druids are represented by Washington Grove No. 9, organized in 1875, with about fifteen charter members, from whom the following officers were chosen: J. Morth, N. A.; George Walker, V. A.; George A. Holliman, D. A.; and Henry Parslow, Sec. A hall is now in process of construction where all these lodges will hold their meetings.

Prominent among the business institutions of Delano is the Wright County Bank, established in 1880, by Detmann & Roosen, who are doing an extensive business, and are about to establish themselves in new and elegant quarters.

According to the agricultural report of 1880, there were 3,600 acres under cultivation in Franklin, and the products of the township for the same year were: wheat, 44,271 bushels; oats, 26,411 bushels; corn, 21,064 bushels; barley, 2,585 bushels; potatoes, 7,283 bushels; beans, 51 bushels; sugar cane, 2,983 gillous; cultivated hay, 179 tons; wild hay, 1,978 tons; tobacco, 50 pounds; wool,

2,909 pounds; butter, 18,525 pounds; cheese, 130 pounds; and honey, 25 pounds.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

O. L. BILLINGS was born in Portland, Maine, on the 5th of January, 1849. When a child, the family moved to Mechanic's Falls, where his father died in 1860. The family moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1865, where the subject of this sketch taught school for sixteen terms. In 1874, he moved to Delano, Wright county; was employed as a clerk for some time, then taught school and read law. He has filled the office of Village Constable for six years, and Notary Public for four years, and is now conducting the business of conveyancer and collector. He married Miss Lucy Chapin on the 17th of March, 1875. They have two children.

HENRY A. BALL, a native of Albany county, New York, was born on the 9th of December, 1845. In 1862, he enlisted in the One hundred and thirteenth New York Volunteer Infantry, serving till the close of the war. Returned to the state of New York, and in 1865, moved to Menominee, Wisconsin, where he learned the photograph business. In 1866, he moved to Greenwood, Hennepin county, Minnesota, and in 1869, to Delano, Wright county, and opened a photograph gallery, since which time this has been his home. He has rooms also at Howard Lake, and spends a portion of his time taking views over the country. He and Daniel Fish, now of Minneapolis, under the firm name of Ball and Fish, started the first newspaper in this place, known as the "Big Woods Citizen."

T. J. CATLIN, one of the old settlers of the Minnesota valley, and a native of Floyd county, Indiana, was born on the 11th of June, 1849. In 1855, the family moved to St. Peter, Minnesota, where his father owned and cultivated the land on which the State Insane Asylum now stands. He attended the public schools; then the parish school, (Episcopal) under Rev. E. Livermore; was in the printing business for some time; studied medicine with Drs. C. A. McCollum and A. W. Daniels, and afterwards took a course at the Iowa State University. He went to Rush Medical College in 1873, and graduated the following year, and soon after came to Delano, where he is now practicing his profession. He was joined in wedlock with Miss Ella J. Cunningham on the 22d of June, 1875. They have three sons.



JOHN COOLEN was born in Maasbrucht, on the banks of the Maas river, Germany, on the 20th of September, 1844. At the age of fifteen years he commenced to learn the art of paper-making, which he followed for three years. In 1863, came to Buffalo, Wright county, where he engaged in farming until 1867, when he enlisted in the Tenth Regular United States Infantry, serving two years at Fort Snelling and one year at Corpus Christi, Texas. After leaving the army he remained one year at Corpus Christi, working at the carpenter trade; but in 1871, returned to Buffalo township and was farming until 1875. He then moved to Delano and opened a furniture store, and in 1877, also engaged in the lumber business; is also a member of the company that owns and operates the grain elevator at this place. He was joined in marriage with Miss Julia Weldele on the 31st of December, 1871. They have three children.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, a native of Lincoln county, Maine, was born on the 28th of September, 1833. While a young man, was employed four years in a cotton factory at Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1856, came to Minnesota, and in December of the same year, to his present farm in section twenty-three, Franklin township. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, of the Third Minnesota Volunteer infantry, serving four years. He married Miss Harriet L. Lowell on the 18th of September, 1856. They have eight children.

HIRAM DYER, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 26th of May, 1827. At the age of twelve years he went to Philadelphia and learned the butcher business. In the spring of 1857, came to St. Paul, Minnesota, following his trade until 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving with General Sully on the Plains, and afterwards in the South until his discharge in August, 1865. Then returned to St. Paul and followed his trade until 1880, when he came to Delano, following his old business. He is Chief of the Fire Department of the village. Was married to Miss Caroline Blatz in the year 1860, and they have four children.

A. Y. EATON, a native of Columbia county, Ohio, was born on the 3d of July, 1842. He first attended the common schools, then Beaver Academy, and graduated at Mount Union College in 1867, and was immediately elected Professor of Latin and Greek at Wyoming College, Delaware, where he

studied law under Hon. C. P. Ramsey. After two years he returned to Ohio, and graduated at the Ohio Law School, in 1870. He then traveled for about two years, after which he located at San Saba, Texas, where he practiced law for three years; then spent some time traveling through the South, and part of South America. He then returned to Ohio, making it his home till 1878, when he came to St. Paul, Minnesota, extending his observations over the North, and located in Delano in 1880, where he now resides, giving his attention to the practice of law.

OLE ERWIG, a native of northern Norway, was born on the 4th of February, 1834. While young he learned the tailor's trade, and followed it in his native country until 1869, when he emigrated to America, locating in Allamakee county, Iowa, and in 1873, came to Delano, and opened a merchant tailoring establishment, where he still seeks to accommodate his patrons. He married Miss Martha Erickson in March, 1877. They have two children.

DAGOBERT KERKER was born in the canton of St. Gall, Switzerland, on the 26th of February, 1848. He attended the schools of his native city and graduated at Wznach in 1866, and soon after came to America, locating in Chaska, Carver county, Minnesota, where he taught the public schools for four years, and the Catholic school for six years, and was organist in the Catholic church for ten years. In the spring of 1881, he came to Delano, and opened a boarding-house, bakery, and saloon. He was married to Miss Veronika Rendler, on the 2d of September, 1873. They have two children; John A. and Edward.

J. LOHMILLER was born at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, on the 22d of June, 1856. Attended school until old enough, then learned the jeweler's trade, which he still follows. In 1877, went to Chicago, where he worked until 1879, when he came to Marshall, Lyon county, Minnesota, and in 1880, to Delano, where he has since continued in his chosen occupation.

J. P. LYLE, one of the pioneers of the town and a native of Nova Scotia, was born on the 8th of January, 1821. He lived in his native country engaged in farming until 1852, when he moved to New Hampshire, and was employed as watchman at Salmon Falls. In 1854, he came to Minnesota, and during the winter worked in the pinceries. In the spring following, in company with J. Patten,





he made a tour through this section and selected a claim, which is now his home, in section twelve, Franklin township, and brought his family here the following fall. Then there was not a resident in the town. Part of the village of Delano is located on his farm, which was covered with heavy timber, but is now one of the best improved farms in the town. He was the first Collector in the town; has been Chairman of the board of Supervisors for two years, and has filled most of the town offices.

THOMAS F. O'HAIR, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 25th of August, 1851. When a boy, the family moved to Ohio, and afterwards lived in various places until 1861, when they located in Iowa, where Thomas F. studied law at the State University, graduating in the law department in 1877. Then spent a short time in Adrian, Michigan, and soon after went to Montana Territory, but returned to Iowa in the fall of 1879, and attended law lectures at the University during the winter, and in 1880, came to Delano, where he is practicing his profession.

C. G. ROOSEN, a native of Germany, was born in the year 1848. He emigrated to America in 1872, locating at St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1876, became cashier for Seymour, Sabin & Co., of Stillwater, where he remained until 1880, when the partnership of Ditman and Roosen was formed, and the Wright County Bank established at Delano, which has since been in operation. Mr. C. M. Ditman is a banker of large experience, and was instrumental in establishing a bank at Farmington, Minnesota, in 1876. He is a resident of St. Paul.

JOHN STEFFES was born in the province of Rhine, Germany, on the 14th of January, 1837. He learned the weaver's trade, and followed it until he emigrated to America in 1857. He stopped first at St. Paul, Minnesota, but in May, 1858, came to Wright county, and located on a homestead in Buffalo township, where he lived for about twelve years, being Supervisor eight years and Justice of the Peace four years. In 1876, he came to Delano, kept a saloon for three years, and soon after, opened a butcher shop which he still operates. He is President of the village Council, first assistant of the fire department, and foreman of the Hook and Ladder Company. He married Miss Helen Weldele, on the 26th of November, 1868. They have five children.

RILEY STURMAN, one of the first settlers of this town, was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, on the

16th of May, 1830. At the age of seventeen, came with his parents to Illinois, and in 1855, to Minnesota, taking a claim on what is now section twenty-three, Franklin township, Wright county. He built a claim shanty on the 4th of July, and spent most of the summer on the claim, returning to Illinois in the fall. Next spring he returned to his claim, and has since made this his home. What was then a wilderness, now puts on the garb of improvement and beauty. He has also a prairie farm in Redwood county, where he spends a portion of his time. He has been Chairman of the town board for three years. Married Lomisa Murphy on the 25th of December, 1858. They have twelve children.

JAMES D. YOUNG dates his birth in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of April, 1834. When James was but thirteen years old, his father died, but the old farm continued to be his home, until twenty-one years of age, when he came west. He came directly to the present town of Greenwood, Hennepin county, where he was one of the pioneers, bringing the first wagon through the woods to that place in 1855. After living there two years, he went to Minneapolis and opened the first restaurant in the town, but returned to Greenwood two years later and kept a hotel for a number of years. In 1863, he enlisted in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving till the close of the war. Returning from the army he engaged in farming in Independence township, Hennepin county, and in 1871, came to Delano, where he now lives. He first opened a small hotel, but his ever increasing trade compelled him, in 1879, to erect a large and commodious house, one of the finest in this section of country. He also conducts a livery stable in connection with the hotel. Mr. Young was married on the 17th of September, 1857, to Miss Ruth A. Powers. They have six children; three boys and three girls.

## OTSEGO.

### CHAPTER CXXXI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—VILLAGE—MANUFACTURING—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Otsego is the northeast town in Wright county, the Mississippi river forming its northern and eastern boundary, and separating it from Sherburne



county. It has an area of about 19,200 acres, about 2,300 of which are under cultivation. The surface was originally nearly all covered with timber, except a small prairie in the eastern part, known as Carrick's Prairie. The soil varies from a sandy loam, near the river, to a dark loam in the interior.

John McDonald, the first permanent settler in Wright county, made a claim where the little village of Otsego now is, in October, 1852, and still resides in the vicinity.

Samuel Carrick is said to have had a trading post in the vicinity of Carrick's Prairie as early as 1850, but did not locate a claim until 1852. He was a soldier in the Fourth Minnesota regiment, and died in Andersonville prison on the 4th of May, 1864. David McPherson also settled in the town in 1852. George W. and James W. Carrick came in 1853, and settled on Carrick's Prairie, near their brother Samuel. Alva L. Cooley also arrived that year. The year 1854 witnessed the arrival of John Pepin, Charles Laplant and others.

As has been seen, this was the first town to be settled in Wright county, and it has maintained a steady growth ever since, the population, according to the last census, numbering 740 persons.

The records of the first town meetings are not in existence, and the reader is referred to the chapter devoted to the general history of the county for the date of organization and first boundaries.

The oldest village in the county is Otsego, lying on the Mississippi river, and covering a portion of sections seventeen and eighteen. It contains a store, church, schoolhouse, post-office, and boarding house.

A portion of Dayton village lies in this town, and is in the extreme eastern part. It contains one flouring mill, with a capacity of thirty barrels per day, a cooper shop, and a few residences.

There is a Methodist Episcopal church in the village of Otsego, which was erected by that denomination at a cost of \$3,500.

The first religious service held in this town was by the Rev. Mr. White. This was in an early day, and as the dwellings were rather contracted in size as well as primitive in appearance, Mr. John McDonald's barn was used as the place of worship.

The first child born was David McPherson, a son of Norman McPherson.

The first marriage was L. McDonald, a son of John McDonald, and Miss C. Spencer, a daughter of Ephraim Spencer.

The first school taught in the town was by Mrs. Alva L. Cooley, at her residence, in 1854. There are now five schools, in which the regular terms are taught.

The agricultural products for 1880, were: wheat, 22,864 bushels; oats, 10,174 bushels; corn, 8,774 bushels; barley, 141 bushels; rye, 171 bushels; buckwheat, 20 bushels; potatoes, 5,356 bushels; beans, 44 bushels; sugar cane, 2,546 gallons; cultivated hay, 175 tons; wild hay, 1,184 tons; tobacco, 355 pounds; wool, 1,775 pounds; butter, 18,250 pounds; and honey, 150 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES WILLIAM CARRICK was born in Washington county, Maine, on the 25th of December, 1833. He came to Wisconsin, and soon after, to Minnesota, locating in Otsego, in 1853. His brother Samuel had come to this town some time before and located on Carrick's Prairie. Mr. Carrick has lived in this town since coming to the State, except eight years spent in Montana Territory. He was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Ann Lovejoy, on the 13th of June, 1862. Mrs. Carrick was born on the 23d of October, 1843, and came to Minnesota in 1855. She attended school in St. Anthony for about two years, then at St. Cloud for a number of years, after which she taught school for one term in Sherburne county. They have had three children; two of whom are living; Georgia and Emma.

GEORGE W. CARRICK, a son of Lemuel Carrick, deceased, is one of the early settlers of this town. The subject of this sketch located on a part of Samuel Carrick's claim, which he finally purchased, and where he still resides. This was the first farm opened on Carrick Prairie. Samuel enlisted in the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; was captured during the advance upon Atlanta; kept in the rebel prison at Belle Isle during the winter, and in the spring of 1864, removed to Andersonville, where he died in May of the same year. There were five brothers in this family. Eli was drowned in the west branch of the Rum river in 1852. Charles J. is a farmer in Dakota Territory, and James William is mentioned in a previous sketch. The mother of this family died in 1876, aged seventy-five years; and the father died in July, 1880, aged eighty-three years. George W. Carrick has been twice married; his first wife, Miss Maryett Thorpe, of Connecticut, chosen on the 17th of August, 1863; she died in





June, 1870, leaving three children; Anna, Mary-ett, and William W. He married his present wife, Miss Celia Gould, of Otsego, on the 10th of September, 1872. They have had two children, one of whom is living; Clinton A.

JOHN McDONALD was born in Standish, Cumberland county, Maine, on the 5th of June, 1806. His early life was spent on a farm. In 1827, he engaged in lumbering and millwright business. In 1847, he came to St. Anthony, Minnesota. His first work was to repair the old Government saw-mill on the west side of the falls, to saw plank for a flat-boat; and then with Caleb Dorr, Ard Godfrey, George Forbes, W. A. Cheever, and others, built the first dam at St. Anthony Falls in the fall of 1847. The following spring, returned to Maine, and in the fall of the same year went to Willow river, now Hudson, Wisconsin, remaining until May, 1849, when he returned to St. Anthony and built two mills. Then went to Little Falls, Minnesota, and spent the winter, and in the spring of 1850, returned to Minneapolis, remaining till 1852, when he came to Otsego, and made a claim on section seventeen. He built a house, and in the following October, moved his family to their new home, where he has since resided, engaged in farming. He built the first ferry across the Mississippi at this place, in April 1851. He was Chairman of the first board of County Commissioners in 1855, and was also Justice of the Peace. Mr. McDonald has been twice married; his first wife, Miss Mary Inman, was chosen on the 6th of November, 1828. They had two sons; John and Lewis. He lost his companion, and married for a second wife, Miss Zelpha H. Marsh, of Orono, Maine, on the 1st of August, 1841.

JOSEPH DAVIS, a native of Lowell, Penobscot county, Maine, was born in the year 1823, and attained manhood on a farm in his native State. When thirty years of age he came to Minnesota, engaged in lumbering and farming until 1850, when he located at St. Anthony and gave his whole attention to lumbering for three years. Was a fireman on the first steamboat that run on the Upper Mississippi, called the "Governor Ramsey," commanded by Captain Rollins. In 1853, he moved on a farm near Elk River, Sherburne county, where he lived until 1866, when he came to his present farm on section eighteen, part of which is within the limits of the village of Otsego. Mr. Davis has been twice married. His present wife was Miss Emeline A. Spencer, to whom he

was married in December, 1855. She has borne him eleven children, five girls and six boys.

CALEB FULTON BAKER was born in Steuben county, New York, on the 18th of December, 1820. He lived in his native State till 1860, when he moved to Iowa, and in a short time, returned to New York, where he lived till 1867, when he came to Minnesota, and located on a farm in this township where he still resides. He keeps a ferry which is known as Baker's Ferry. He was joined in marriage with Miss Emeline Stevens in the year 1849. Mrs. Baker is a native of New York, and they have five children; three boys, and two girls.

WATSON HIRAM GERRISH was born in the town of Brownville, Maine, on the 28th of February, 1836, where he lived till coming to Big Lake, Sherburne county, Minnesota, in 1865. He came to his present home in section ten, in March, 1874. He married Miss Anna Heath, a native of Brownville, Piscataquis county, Maine, on the 31st of November, 1866. Their children are, Evan G., Ada, Edward F., Charles W., and Jay Lyman.

JOSEPH BRADLEY HAMLET, a native of Brownville, Piscataquis county, Maine, was born on the 5th of March, 1824. He lived in his native State till 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, of the Eleventh Maine Volunteer Infantry under Captain Stafford, serving seven months. Was in the battle of Yorktown, Virginia, and at the battle of Seven Pines; was wounded, on account of which he was mustered out of service at Yorktown, Virginia, on the 7th of October, 1862. Then returned to Maine, where he lived till the spring of 1865, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Otsego township where he still resides. He was joined in marriage with Miss Charlotte M. Snow, a native of Maine, in the year 1845. They have four children; two boys, and two girls; all married.

HIRAM HARPER, a native of Oxford county, Maine, was born in the year 1806. His mother died when he was but four years old, and his father six years later. He lived in his native State till thirty years of age, when he came to Minnesota, and located in this township in December, 1855, where he has a farm of one hundred acres. He married Miss Elmira Heath, of Maine, on the 19th of August, 1827. They have six children. The oldest son, Elisha K., was in the late civil war three years. After receiving an honorable discharge, was employed in the Provost-marshal's department at Washington, D. C., and in the Adjutant-general's department, and also performed

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clerical labor for President Lincoln for a time. He died in June, 1866, in Washington, and was buried in the Congregational cemetery in the latter city. The youngest son, Benjamin, is on the home farm; three of the other children are living in Minnesota, and one resides in Michigan.

WALTER GROVE HOLLY, a native of New York State, was born on the 26th of January, 1833, where he lived, working on his father's farm, until he moved to Michigan in 1855. In 1869, he moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, working in a saw mill for ten years, when he came to his present farm in section twenty-three. He married, in 1856, Mrs. Naomi Markham, who was born in the state of New York. They have seven living children; four girls and three boys. Mrs. Holly had five children by her first husband.

CLARK HALEY, a native of Canada East, was born on the 16th of April, 1831. His father moved to New York soon after his birth, and in 1856 came to Minnesota and lived in Hennepin county for three years, after which he returned to the state of New York. He enlisted in August, 1861, in Company D, of the One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Jones, serving one year; was in several engagements during his term of service. He lost his health in the army, and now draws a pension. Returned to Minnesota in 1879, and located on a farm in Otsego township, known as the Cory farm. He married Miss Amanda Lee, a native of New York, in the year 1856. They have five children. The oldest daughter is married, and the remaining children are at home.

JOHN NICHOLAS MORRELL, a native of the province of New Brunswick, was born on the 25th of December, 1820. His parents moved to the state of Maine when he was but eight years of age. At the age of seventeen, went on a sea voyage to Boston and New York, then back to Maine, and engaged in farming and lumbering until 1855, when he moved to Minneapolis and worked in a saw mill for Leonard Day & Brothers for a short time, but came to this township the same year, where he has lived ever since. He bought his present farm in section eighteen in 1863. He enlisted on the 4th of October, 1861, in Company C, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Donaldson; was in the siege of Corinth, where he received a sunstroke and laid in an unconscious state for seven weeks, being removed, in the meantime, to Keokuk, Iowa. He was discharged on the

12th of September, 1862, on account of disability; but re-enlisted in August, 1864, in Company F, of his old regiment, under Captain Wellman, serving until the 12th of June, 1865. Then returned to his farm, and now resides in this town. He married Miss Mary A. Leakey, a native of Nova Scotia, on the 4th of November, 1844. They have had a family of six children, four of whom are living.

MISS HATTIE JOSEPHINE PEPIN was born in the town of Otsego, Wright county, on the 18th of October, 1859, where she still resides. Her father, John Pepin, was born in Montreal, Canada, and came with his parents to New York, where he lived till coming to Minnesota, in 1848. Mr. Pepin moved to his present farm in section twenty-two, in the fall of 1854, where the family now live. He married Miss Julia Osier, of Canada, on the 1st of January, 1848. They have eight children; two sons and one daughter are at home. Hattie J. attended school in the district where they reside, for several years, and one year at Dayton, Hennepin county.

MISS SARAH E. RICKER was born in the town of Bradford, Penobscot county, Maine. She came with her parents to Manomin county, now Fridley township, Anoka county, in April, 1855. The family came to Otsego township in 1856, and moved to their present farm in 1857. Miss Ricker has been teaching school for a number of years with credit to herself, but has been obliged to desist on account of ill health. She taught the first school in district number twelve in the year 1865.

LEONARD SNOW was born in Penobscot county, Maine, on the 18th of May, 1837, where he lived till twenty years of age. He and his brother came to Minnesota in 1856, and located on section seventeen, Otsego township, where he has lived since, except while in the army. Enlisted in November, 1861, in Company C, of the first Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Soon after his enlistment he was sent to Maryland; was through the Peninsula Campaign; in the battle of Seven Oaks; at the second battle of Bull Run, and at the siege of Yorktown, Virginia. After serving for two years, was mustered out at Baltimore, when he returned to his home in Minnesota, and has since resided with his brother.

NICHOLAS SCHUMACHER, a native of Germany, was born on the 13th of July, 1837. He emigrated to America in 1854, and soon after, located on his present farm in section thirty-four. He

The following table shows the results of the investigation of the effect of the use of the "K" type of X-ray tube on the exposure time required for the production of a satisfactory radiograph of the hand and wrist. The results are given in terms of the number of exposures required for the production of a satisfactory radiograph of the hand and wrist.

The results of the investigation show that the use of the "K" type of X-ray tube results in a marked reduction in the number of exposures required for the production of a satisfactory radiograph of the hand and wrist. The results are given in terms of the number of exposures required for the production of a satisfactory radiograph of the hand and wrist.

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has a farm of eighty acres, sixty of which are under cultivation. His father and mother came to the town with him, but have since passed away. His mother died on the 27th of December, 1865, and his father, on the 12th of May, 1867. He married Miss Mary Ann Boden, also a native of Germany, in the year 1865. Their children are, Stephen, Joseph, Benedict, Adam, Ignatius, and Vincent.

WILLIAM JAMES URAN was born in the state of New York, on the 22d of September, 1833, where he lived until twenty-one years of age, working on his father's farm. Came to Illinois in 1854, and lived in that State, Indiana, and Iowa, until February, 1865, when he enlisted in Company B, of the One hundred and fifty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Goodwin. Was sent to Tennessee, and after serving about eight months, was mustered out of service at Nashville. Returned from the army and came to Otsego township in 1866, where he has since resided. He married Miss E. A. Dimick, a native of New York, in the year 1869. They have had four children, three of whom are living; two boys and one girl.

ADAM JOHN WOOD, a native of Canada, was born on the 9th of March, 1816, where he lived until 1855, when he came to Minnesota, and the following year located on a farm in this township, which was his home for twenty-one years. He now lives in the village of Otsego, where he has a fine residence, and still owns part of his farm in section thirty. He married Miss Catharine Wood on the 26th of January, 1841, who died on the 10th of November, 1876. He has ten children; eight sons and two daughters. His present wife was Mrs. Nancy Pierce. His son, Adam Jr., was born in Canada West, on the 9th of May, 1852. He came with the family to Otsego, in 1855, and has lived in the town ever since. He has a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section thirty, eighty of which is part of the original homestead of his father. He married Miss Sarah E. Fleming on the 4th of July, 1857. They have two children; Harris Walter and Frederick.

EPHRAIM P. WHITE, a native of Belmont township, Waldo county, Maine, was born on the 22d of November, 1823. When he was seven years of age, his parents moved to Penobscot county, where he lived till 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, of the Eighth Maine Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Conant. Was at Fortress Monroe at the time of its capture, and also at Fort Pu-

laski. After serving fourteen months in Company K, was transferred to Company H, of the First South Carolina Colored Infantry, and promoted to First Lieutenant, where he served for two years, and was mustered out of service at Hilton, South Carolina, on the 9th of March, 1864. He re-enlisted in September, 1864, in the Ninth Maine Regulars, serving until September, 1865. He married, on the 14th of February, 1847, Miss Emeline M. White, by whom he had seven children, six of whom are living. His two sons, Henry and Buell S., served in the late civil war. His wife died in Greenbush, on the 8th of January, 1878.

EDSON D. WASHBURN, a native of Essex county, New York, was born in the year 1841. Came with his parents to Minnesota in 1855, and soon after, located on a farm in section twenty-seven, Otsego township. He enlisted on the 14th of August, 1862, in Company E, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Hartley. Spent the first winter at Fort Ripley, then on a campaign after the Indians, during the summer of 1863. In 1864, went with Sully's expedition into Montana Territory, and was in various engagements with the Indians. Was sent south in October, 1864; was in an engagement at Murfreesboro', and several other places, and mustered out at Fort Snelling after nearly three years of continued service. He was joined in marriage to Miss Amelia Wells, who was born in New York, in the year 1866. They have a family of six children. His parents live with him on the same farm which he selected in 1855.

## ROCKFORD.

### CHAPTER CXXXII.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—  
VILLAGE HISTORY—AGRICULTURAL.

Rockford is one of the southeastern towns of Wright county, and has an area of about 24,960 acres, of which 3,210 are under cultivation. Its southern and eastern boundaries are irregular, the former being marked by the North Fork of Crow River, and the latter by the main stream, or Crow River, formed by the confluence of the North and South Forks at a point about two miles above the village.

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The surface is mainly rolling, and originally well timbered, except a small tract in the southwestern portion, known as Frederic's Prairie, so named for one of the early settlers. Here the soil is somewhat sandy, but elsewhere, is a rich dark loam, with clay sub-soil. Several fine lakes are found in this town, most of which are well stocked with fish. The principal of these are, Martha, Charlotte, Moore's, Crawford, Rinkard, Dean, and Mary lakes, the last three of which find an outlet to the North Fork of Crow river.

The first settlers here came in 1855, one of whom, Mr. Fraser, pre-empted the town site of Rockford village, and soon after sold his claim to George F. Ames, Joel Florida, and G. D. George, who built a steam saw mill the following year. The mill burned the next season, and was replaced by a water-power mill, and a grist mill was added. A portion of this primitive mill yet remains, though scarcely distinguishable in the present structure. Mr. Ames purchased both his partners' interest and for some time operated the mills alone. None of the original proprietors are now living. Mr. Ames died at Rockford, October 30th, 1878; Mr. Florida some years since, in Minneapolis, and Mr. George, about eight years since, at Rockford. In 1878, George W. Florida, a son of Joel Florida, acquired the title to this property, and has made it one of the most valuable in the county—both the lumber and flouring mills having been remodeled and fitted up with machinery of the latest improved style.

Isaac P. Harvey came in the fall of 1855, and is the oldest living settler in the town. He is a native of Ohio, was born in 1834, removed to Illinois in 1854, and here the following year, selecting the claim which is still his home. He was much in office during the earlier days of this colony, having filled the several local offices of importance in his town, and has been active in projecting many public improvements. He has been twice married; first in 1856, to Miss Esther Bushnell, who died in August, 1879, leaving four children; and in July, 1880, he was united in marriage with Miss Phoebe Lindley, of Monticello, a prominent teacher, at one time employed in the Academy at Monticello.

Among other early settlers were: Owen Davis, who came in the spring of 1856, John and Jesse Prestige, in June or July the same year, Ralph Ames and James Dixon, later in the season, and William Sleight, who now has one of the finest

fruit farms in this region. He is of English birth, and has, since coming here, been prominently identified with church and other public affairs, and one of the founders and supporters of the Wright County Agricultural Society, and Old Settlers Association, in both of which he has held several terms as President. William and Thomas Walker, John Elliot, the Dean family, and others came in 1857, besides many whose names are not learned.

The town of Rockford was organized in 1858, and Joel Florida was the first chairman of Supervisors. Miner Ball was the first Treasurer, and H. A. Wallace and Oscar F. Jackson were also among the first officers elected.

The first preaching was by a Methodist minister about 1856, to which reference is made in the sketch of the Methodist Church in the village, following.

The first school was taught by Miss M. Moses, in the winter of 1856-57, in an old claim shanty built by Mrs. Ames, afterwards Mrs. G. D. George. Miss Moses is now the wife of George Sook, a prosperous farmer of this town.

The first white child born in the town was Thomas B. Smith, in the summer of 1856. The family removed from this locality a few months later.

The first death occurred the same season, removing from the community Washington Steward, an uncle of O. J. Steward, the present County Superintendent of Wright county.

The first marriage bears date October 11th, 1856, the parties being Isaac P. Harvey and Miss Esther Bushnell. Ralph Ames, H. Angell, and George Sook also selected partners about this time.

Aside from the murder of Wallace, with which the reader is already familiar, another tragedy occurred in this town, which is still well remembered by the early settlers. In 1857, a Mr. Shippy, living on the farm now owned by Henry Mack, was annoyed by a visit from three drunken parties who evidently miscalculated the mettle of Mr. Shippy, who, though a sort of recluse, was a quiet, inoffensive citizen and enjoyed the respect of the community. A difficulty ensued, resulting in the death of Raymer, a man of ill repute, whom Shippy dispatched with a shot from his fowling piece. Shippy was arrested, tried, and sentenced to prison for life, notwithstanding the general expressed opinion that it was a case of justifiable





homicide, and resulted in ridding the community of an obnoxious character.

The village of Rockford was platted by the original mill company already mentioned, soon after their coming here, and a hotel opened by C. C. Jenks, which passed through the hands of several parties, and was removed a few years since. A few private houses have, from time to time, been thrown open to the traveling public, but no well-regulated hotel until L. Allars built the "Centennial Hotel" in 1876, which has since absorbed all the public patronage. Mr. Allars came to the town of Greenwood, just opposite, in 1855, and has been identified with Rockford ever since. A man named Farnham was also one of the first settlers on the east side, soon changing to this side, and has since made this town his home.

J. Ralph Ames is also prominent among the settlers of 1856. He is a native of Colchester, Vermont, and was born on the 2d of February, 1827. Miss Mary E. Miller became his wife June 7th, 1857, and two children were born to them, one of whom, Dow D., is still living; the other, Annie E., died March 17th, 1870. Mr. Ames has filled the principal town offices, and in 1870, was elected County Auditor of Wright County, and re-elected in 1872, but resigned during the summer of 1873 on account of poor health. He is now living in the village of Rockford, and is one of her most honored citizens.

Ames & Benner opened a small store here in 1856, and in 1858, Miner Ball, now a real estate dealer of Minneapolis, began trade here. He conducted the business for a few years with marked success, then sold to M. W. Shultis, from whom, after one or two changes, it passed, in 1865, to J. Benner, who is still in trade.

The Rockford Woolen Mills is the outgrowth of a small carding mill established in 1873, by Parker and Reynolds. The next season Mr. Reynolds sold his interest to M. G. Waren, who still holds an interest. The following year, spinning was added, and one loom put in. J. Benner became a partner the same year, since which the firm name has been Parker, Waren, & Benner. Two years later, another loom was added, the next year three looms and a yarn twister, besides a considerable amount of finishing machinery. Still further additions were made in 1880, and now the Rockford Woolen Mills sustain a reputation excelled by none, and furnish goods to the trade throughout a large scope of territory. Sixteen operatives

find employment here, and the increasing business will soon demand the services of additional numbers.

The village is fairly supplied with stores, shops, etc., and has a good school building, where two departments are maintained during the usual school terms.

**CHURCHES.**—The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized through the effort of Mr. William Sleight, soon after his arrival here in 1856, and is still maintained. Rev. Mr. Abbott was among the first to minister to the society.

A Presbyterian Church was organized during war times, Rev. Mr. Hunter being the first settled pastor. A church edifice was soon after erected, in which meetings are now held weekly, Rev. Mr. Cheadle, of Buffalo, officiating. A Sabbath School has been maintained most of the time since the organization of the society.

A Swedish Lutheran Church was organized some years ago, and a building commenced on section seven, which is not yet fully completed, the society being neither numerous nor wealthy.

A German Methodist Church was built on section nineteen, in 1878, near which the society also own a parsonage. The church edifice is a symmetrical structure, and denotes a prosperous society. Near this church is another in process of erection by the German Lutheran society. All these churches maintain cemeteries conveniently located.

**SOCIETIES.**—Star Lodge No. 62, A. F. and A. M., was organized U. D. in January, 1867, and chartered a year later. The first officers were: Erenis W. Gray, W. M.; D. W. Guptill, S. W.; and E. Dyer, J. W. Other chartered members were: F. B. Angell, George Brown, C. T. Coverdale, John Williams, and John Acker. The present officers are: J. R. Ames, W. M.; D. W. McCarter, S. W.; I. P. Harvey, J. W.; Samuel Hesler, Treasurer; G. A. Ruckoldt, Secretary; H. D. Cadwell, S. D.; C. D. Fredericks, J. D.; and Enoch Miller, Tyler. The present membership is thirty-six.

The Good Templars were represented by Myrtle Lodge some years ago, but have no organization now.

From the agricultural report of 1880, we gather the following statistics as the aggregate products of Rockford township for that year: wheat, 36,430 bushels; oats, 17,782 bushels; corn, 22,533 bushels; barley, 429 bushels; rye, 140 bushels; buck-



wheat, 67 bushels; potatoes, 5,520 bushels; beans, 125 bushels; sugar-cane, 2,843 gallons; cultivated hay, 257 tons; wild hay, 1,404 tons; tobacco, 468 pounds; wool, 6,021 pounds; butter, 28,500 pounds; and honey, 150 pounds.

## SILVER CREEK.

### CHAPTER CXXXIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—TOWN SITES—MILLS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Silver Creek lies in the northern portion of the county, and embraces an area of about 24,300 acres, 2,882 being under cultivation. The surface is undulating, and in the eastern part, quite broken. Extending a few miles back from the river, it is covered with brush and light poplar groves, but towards the southwest part, heavier timber is found. The soil near the river is light and sandy, but the greater portion of the town has a dark loam. Silver creek enters the town on the south line and runs in a northerly direction, entering the Mississippi on section fifteen. The township is also watered by numerous lakes.

The first white man to remain any length of time in this town was Archie Downie, who made a claim near the mouth of Silver creek about 1852 or 1853. When the Indians were removed from the vicinity, he also left. The first permanent settlers were, Joseph S. Locke, J. W. Sanborn, and Thomas Melrose, who made claims in 1855, and were followed during that and the following year by a number of others, who settled in different parts of the town. The population, in 1880, numbered 381 persons.

A town site was surveyed and platted about 1856, near the mouth of Silver Creek, and named Fremont. The principal proprietors were George and E. H. Day, of St. Anthony. A steam saw-mill was erected, a store, blacksmith shop, school-house, and hotel were also built, but further improvements seemed impossible, and the enterprise finally collapsed. All that remains is the hotel, which is now the residence of Chester Dunklee.

Another town, named Mount Vernon, was laid out in 1857, by F. Thompson, of Monticello, on sections four, five, and eight, but this never rose above the common dignity of a paper town.

A saw-mill was erected on section five, by Lambert & Chubb in 1875. It has now passed into the hands of Mr. Chubb, who has recently remodeled it. The present capacity is five thousand feet per day.

The first Post-office was established in 1855 or 1856, and named "Silver Creek." It was located on section fifteen, and A. G. Descent was the first Postmaster. It has been kept at different places since, but is now in charge of J. N. Locke, who resides on section eight.

A Post-office was established at the house of Moses Goodrich in 1857, and called "Bianca," but was discontinued in three or four years.

"Ypsilanti" Post-office was also established in 1857, at the house of J. Brooks, on section twenty-five, but suspended a couple of years later.

The first religious service held in the town was at the house of a man named Glazier, now owned by F. Hitter, by a Baptist clergyman, in 1858. A church organization was effected soon after by Rev. Reuben Weeks. Rev. Moses Goodrich, a Universalist minister, also held meetings at his own house on section eight, and in other localities.

Philip Locke, one of the pioneers of the town, and much interested in its welfare, offered \$1,000 to the denomination that should erect the first house of worship. This was taken advantage of by members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who erected a building on section thirty-three, in 1863, but it was subsequently moved to its present location on section five. Rev. J. B. Chadlee was the first minister.

The first school in the town was taught by Miss Jeanette Dunklee at the old town of Fremont in the summer of 1858. There are now four schools in the township, in which the regular terms are taught.

From the agricultural report of 1880, we gather the following as the products of the town for that year: wheat, 14,810 bushels; oats, 5,267 bushels; corn, 11,315 bushels; rye, 121 bushels; potatoes, 1,750 bushels; beans, 14 bushels; sugar cane, 801 gallons; cultivated hay, 64 tons; wild hay, 857 tons; wool, 1,505 pounds; butter, 16,110 pounds; cheese, 335 pounds; and honey, 700 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

ANTHONY ANDREWS, a native of Mahoning county, Ohio, was born in January, 1831. He grew to manhood under his father's tutorage, on





the farm. In 1852, he came to Minnesota, locating in Richfield township, Hennepin county, which was his home for thirteen years. In 1865, he came to Silver Creek township, locating on section six, where he has since given his attention to farming. He married Miss Mary J. Richard, a native of New York, in the year 1854. They have eleven children.

ALFRED BROWN, a native of Newark, New Jersey, was born on the 28th of May, 1841, where his father was engaged in the manufacture of gas fixtures. In 1858, the family moved to Illinois, and engaged in farming for a time. In 1860, Mr. Brown visited the home of his childhood, remaining one year. On his return to Illinois, in 1861, he enlisted in Company I, of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving three years and one month. During his soldier life, did not miss a march or an engagement in which the regiment participated. He was in the battles of Pea Ridge, Stone River, Perryville, Chickamauga, and Mission Ridge, and with General Sherman on his march to Atlanta. After being discharged, spent about two years at Waukegan, Lake county, Illinois, and in 1866, returned to Minnesota, locating on a farm in section thirty-four, Silver Creek township, where he has been a tiller of the soil ever since. He was elected Town Clerk in 1868, and again in 1875, also Town Treasurer the same year, and has filled both offices since. He married Miss Laura A. Heath on the 21st of August, 1865. They have five children.

CHARLES BRYANT, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, was born on the 9th of August, 1809. His father was a mason, and Charles learned the trade while a boy, working with his father till about twenty two years of age, when he commenced business for himself, working in the vicinity of Boston for a number of years. In 1850, he moved to New York, working in that city and Brooklyn until 1858, when he bent his way westward, remaining in Minneapolis for one year. In 1859, came to Silver Creek township and located on section nine, making it his home for a number of years, but during the hard times was compelled to give it up. Then he took a homestead in Corinna township, where he lived a number of years, but subsequently returned to Silver Creek, where he still resides.

CHARLES H. BRYANT was born in East Cambridge, Massachusetts, on the 1st of March, 1839. When a child of five years, the family removed to

Illinois, remaining about five years; then returned to Massachusetts for one year, and thence to New York City, where the subject of this sketch lived till sixteen years of age, when he went to West Cambridge, Massachusetts, serving an apprenticeship of two and one-half years to the carpenter trade. The following year he came to Wisconsin, and after spending some time in that State, came to Wright county, whither his father and family had previously moved. In 1859, he secured his present farm in section seventeen, and made farming his business. He married Miss Belinda Mathers on the 21st of April, 1859. They have five children.

GEORGE COOMBS, a native of Hancock county, Maine, was born on the 29th of June, 1823. His mother died when he was but eleven years old, and from that time till sixteen years of age, he worked on some neighboring farm. Then went on the Penobscot river, logging and lumbering till 1857, when he came to Minnesota and located in what is now the township of Orrock, Sherburne county, where he farmed for two years. In 1859, moved to the farm in this township, where he still resides. He married Miss Mary Smith, of Maine, in 1845. She died on the 18th of December, 1871, leaving seven children.

CHESTER DUNKLEE, one of the oldest settlers of the town, was born in Vermont on the 1st of December, 1810. In youth he learned the carpenter's trade, and followed that business in his native county for a number of years. At the age of twenty-three, he left home and went to Claremont, New Hampshire, following his trade till 1840, when he engaged in the marble business, continuing it for about sixteen years. In 1856, came westward to look at the country and seek a future home, and in the following winter, located on section fifteen, Silver Creek township. Soon after locating he formed a company and commenced the erection of a steam saw-mill, on what was then the town site of Fremont, and soon after, built a hotel which is now his residence.

HENRY FERGUSON, one of the pioneers of this township, and now one of the oldest residents, was born in Canada West on the 14th of January, 1826, where he lived with his parents on the farm, engaged in agricultural pursuits. His father died when he was about twenty-six years of age; after which he controlled the farm until 1855, when he came to the United States, remaining on the banks of the Upper Mississippi with his family, among



about eight hundred friendly Indians, in what is now Sherburne county. In a few weeks after his arrival, he took a claim on section thirty-two, Silver Creek township, being one of the first to locate in this town. The land at that time was not surveyed, but he at once commenced improving the claim, which has been his home ever since. He has held the office of Assessor, Supervisor, Trustee, and other offices since the organization of the township. He married Miss Letitia Campbell, on the 29th of September, 1853, who was born in Canada, and was the second woman in this township. They have six children.

JOHN J. GRANT was born on the 8th of October, 1829, in Chenango county, New York; when but a child, the family moved to Genesee county, and from thence to Steuben county, where he spent his early years. At the age of twenty, commenced working in the pineries during the winter, and on the Erie Canal during the summer, which he followed till 1862, when he came to Monticello, Minnesota, and rented a farm for two years, then located on the farm in this township where he now resides. He married Miss Adelaide Manley on the 9th of September, 1859, who died July 18th, 1865; he chose for a second wife, Eva M. Walker, on the 5th of October, 1866. They have five children.

PAUL KENNEDY, a native of Canada West, was born on the 6th of January, 1834. He grew to manhood at home, accustomed to farm-work and lumbering, and spent a year or two in the state of New York prior to making a trip westward. In 1856, came to Minnesota, and engaged in lumbering at St. Anthony for one year, when he took a claim in the southern portion of Silver Creek township. In 1865, took a homestead in Woodland township, but soon after, sold his interest in the homestead and returned to Silver Creek. In 1869, he located on his present farm in sections twenty-one and twenty-eight. In 1871, he visited the Black Hills, and remained about three years working in the mines, then returned to his home. He married Miss Catherine McDonald, of Canada, on the 22d of September, 1862. They have seven children.

D. McKENZIE, one of the oldest living settlers of the town, was born in Canada West, on the 22d of February, 1820. His parents were from the Highlands of Scotland, and came to Canada when our subject was quite young. Mr. McKenzie lived with his parents till he attained manhood, when he commenced life for himself, working at

farming, lumbering, etc., and finally became employed in a Pail factory at Gault, Canada, where he remained till 1856, when he came to Minnesota, and soon after located on a farm near Limestone Lake, Silver Creek township. In 1857, moved to his farm in the same township, where he still resides, located on the west bank of McKenzie Lake. Mr. McKenzie has been Justice of the Peace and Supervisor for several terms, and at present, is Chairman of the Board. He married Miss Catherine Quig, on the eighteenth of March, 1845. They have three children.

JOHN D. McKENZIE, a native of Canada, was born on the 21st of April, 1850. In 1856, the family came to Minnesota, spending the winter at Stillwater. In the following spring, his father made a claim in Silver Creek township, to which the family moved in the fall. In the fall of 1879, John D. bought a part of the old farm, and built a comfortable house, in which he now resides. He married Miss Abbie Dunklee, daughter of one of the oldest settlers, on the 9th of November, 1873. They have four children; Homer A., Howard E., Ada E. and an infant unnamed. Mr. McKenzie has been giving special attention to stock raising for some years past.

E. J. LAMBERT, an old settler of Hennepin county, was born in the city of Ithaca, Tompkins county, New York, on the 26th of October, 1828. He grew to manhood on a farm near the above named city. At the age of twenty-one he left home, engaging in various pursuits until 1855, when he went to Marquette, Wisconsin, returning to New York the following spring. In 1858, he moved to Hennepin county, Minnesota, and lived on a farm for one year; then came to Silver Creek township and pre-empted his present farm, where he lived till 1874. Then moved to Minneapolis for a few years, after which he returned to his farm and has lived here since. Since living in the State, Mr. Lambert has devoted a large portion of his time to hunting and trapping. He hunted with the Sionx Indians several seasons, and is regarded as one of the best marksmen and most successful hunters in the country. His son John is following in the footsteps of his father in this particular, having killed over fifty deer the past winter. Mr. Lambert married Miss Mary Jane Morris, November 21st, 1852. They have three children.

EDSON M. LAMBERT, one of the early settlers of the township, and a successful trapper, was born





in Tompkins county, New York, on the 9th of November, 1830. He engaged in farming until 1857, when he came to Minnesota, remaining a few months in Winona county; then returned to the state of New York. The following year he again returned to Minnesota, locating in Hennepin county, but spent most of his time in Silver Creek township, hunting and trapping. He was in company with the Sioux Indians on several hunting expeditions prior to the outbreak of 1862. During the Indian war, he was one of the party that volunteered from Richfield township, Hennepin county, to aid in relieving the settlers, and was distinguished for his bravery. While on his return from an expedition to Fort Ridgely, he was thrown from his horse and injured, from which he has never fully recovered. In 1865, he purchased a farm in Silver Creek township, to which he removed the following year. In 1875, he and J. D. Chubb built a steam saw mill in the town, which he controlled for a few years and then sold. He married Miss Mary B. Culver on the 18th of May, 1852, who died on the 6th of January, 1858. Married Mrs. Alma A. Reichards on the 5th of June, 1863, and has three children.

JOSEPH S. LOCKE, (deceased) one of the pioneers of the town, was born in New Hampshire, on the 21st of July, 1804. When a youth, he went to sea, following that occupation for about three years; then farmed for a time, and was afterwards employed in a factory in Lowell, Massachusetts; and also was a policeman in that city, and thence to Franklin county, Maine, where he farmed until coming to Minnesota in the spring of 1855. He then took a claim in Silver Creek township, and was a resident of the town till his death, which occurred on the 22d of June, 1875. He took a prominent part in all the affairs of the town. His oldest son, J. N. Locke, was born on the 17th of November, 1844, and lives on a part of the old farm. He was appointed Postmaster of Silver Creek post-office in 1880, and has held the office since that date. He married Miss Annie L. Melrose, a daughter of one of the pioneers of the town, on the 6th of April, 1872. They have three children.

GEORGE H. MIDWOOD, a native of Rochester, New York, was born on the 28th of August, 1832. Soon after his birth the family moved to Auburn, New York, where the father owned and operated a woolen mill. After George had completed his school days, he assisted his father in the factory.

In 1854, the family removed to Richfield, Hennepin county, Minnesota, where he lived on his father's farm until 1863, when he became associated with the Quartermaster department, at St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained till 1865. He then spent about two years in traveling through the West. In 1867, located on a farm in Silver Creek township, where he still lives. Married Miss Angeline H. Tenny in 1873. They have one son, named George L. T.

THOMAS MELROSE, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, was born on the 22d of February, 1822. When sixteen years of age, commenced to learn ornamental gardening, serving an apprenticeship of four years. After that, was employed in the offices of warehouses at Glasgow and Leith, Scotland, where he remained until 1849, when he emigrated to the United States, locating at Newark, New Jersey. Here he worked at ornamental gardening for about five years. In 1855, came to Wright county, making a claim in section twenty-five, Silver Creek township, which has been his home since that date. During the first few years of his life in Minnesota, devoted a portion of his time to trapping and hunting, to procure means to improve his farm. He has filled most of the town offices with credit to himself, and was chosen to represent the county in the House of Representatives in 1874. He married Miss Ann Robertson, in Scotland, on the 27th of March, 1849. They have four children.

GOTTLIEB MARTI, a native of Switzerland, was born in December, 1820. When young he learned the carpenter trade, and took a thorough course in music, working at his trade and being a member of the Government band. In 1852, he emigrated to the United States, and located at Freeport, Illinois, working at his trade and organizing the brass and string bands in that place. In 1857, came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, and the same year took a claim on section fifteen, Silver Creek township. He made St. Paul and St. Anthony his home, and worked at his trade until 1861, when he moved to his farm in this county. Married Miss Elizabeth Burkhart in May, 1846. They have five children.

ABRAM SIMMONS, a native of Schoharie county, New York, was born on the 6th of May, 1827. While yet a child, the family moved to Tompkins county, where he grew to manhood, working chiefly in the lumber business. In 1857, he came to Minnesota, making his home for three years in



Richfield township, Hennepin county. In 1860, moved to his present farm in section six. He married Miss Elmira L. Morris on the 13th of July, 1849.

TENNES SCHERMER, a native of Holland, was born on the 1st of December, 1841, living on a farm and obtaining a good education. In 1867, purchased a mill and store in his native land, which he operated till 1874, when he sold out and emigrated to the United States. Soon after landing in America, located on a farm in Silver Creek township, where he still resides, giving his attention to farming. He married Miss Nellie Slagter, on the 19th of April 1863. They have eight children.

CONRAD SCHOMBER was born in Franklin county, Indiana, on the 1st of June, 1836, where he lived with his father until 1857. Then went to Texas on a land exploring expedition, remaining three years. In 1860, returned to Indiana, and in a short time, set out for Minnesota, spending a few weeks in Stearns county, and then coming to Wright county, where, in company with a partner, he purchased two sections of land in Silver Creek and Maple Lake townships. In the fall of the same year, returned to Indiana, and in 1861, enlisted in Company D, of the Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry; was in the battles of Second Bull Run, Antietam, Huntsville, and many others, without receiving a single wound. When discharged he returned to Indiana, and in 1866, moved to his farm in Minnesota, where he now resides, being one of the most extensive farmers in Silver Creek township. He married Miss Paulina Gherbeck on the 29th of June, 1864. They have five children.

IRA C. WADE, a native of New Brunswick, was born on the 23d of August, 1829. When Ira was about nine years of age, the family moved to Aroostook county, Maine. At the age of twenty-one, he left his home and worked in the pineries during the winter, and rafting during the summer until 1854, when he went to Michigan and engaged in lumbering till 1856, when he moved to Minnesota and followed his old business. In 1862, he enlisted in Company D, of the First Minnesota Cavalry, known as the "Mounted Rangers," serving one year. In 1866, he came to the farm in section twelve, Silver Creek township, where he now resides. He married Miss Susan A. Bailey on the 2d of October, 1864.

THOMAS WANN, a native of Hartford county, Maryland, was born on the 11th of October, 1836.

His parents moved to Coles county, Illinois, while Thomas was an infant, living there until 1849, when they moved to Bureau county. Here Mr. Wann lived with his father till 1858, when he commenced business for himself. In 1862, he enlisted in Company H, of the Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. After being discharged he returned to Bureau county, remaining till 1869; then came to Minnesota, living on a rented farm until 1871, when he located on the farm in section thirty-four, where he now lives.

## SOUTHSIDE.

### CHAPTER CXXXIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — CHURCHES — SCHOOLS — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

Southside is the most northwestern town in the county, and embraces an area of about 18,000 acres, 912 being under cultivation. The surface is undulating, and in the south and east, generally covered with heavy timber, while the north and west is mostly brush land. The soil is a dark loam with a clay sub-soil.

The first permanent settler was Nathan J. Robinson, who made a claim in section thirteen in 1857. M. Scoville also settled on the same section about the same time, but both are dead. Thomas J. Noyes settled on section twelve in 1863, and now lives there. He had resided north of the river, in Maine Prairie township, for some years. Charles Dally made a claim in section twenty-four, in 1864, and still resides on the old homestead. These pioneers were soon followed by others, mostly Americans, and in 1880, the population numbered 312 persons.

Southside was organized in 1868, and the first election held at the house of N. J. Robinson on the 9th of March. The officers chosen were: Supervisors, Joshua Mayhew, Chairman, Thomas Ewing, and Jeremiah Gould; Clerk, Thomas J. Noyes; Treasurer, N. J. Robinson; Assessor, J. B. Robinson; Justices of the Peace, N. J. Robinson and P. Gould; and Constable, Abel Lambert.

The first religious services were held by Elder N. J. Robinson at his own residence. Rev. M. S. Harriman, of Corinna, also held services here in an early day. About 1878, a church was erected





by the Methodist Episcopal denomination on section twenty-four, in which services are held once in two weeks.

A Free-will Baptist organization has also been effected, and a church erected on section twenty-three.

The first school taught in this town was by Mrs. Carrie Scoville, in 1860, at the residence of Thaddeus Robinson.

The town is now divided into three districts, in each of which good schools are kept during the regular terms.

The products of Southside, according to the agricultural report of 1880, were: wheat, 9,435 bushels; oats, 3,916 bushels; corn, 6,485 bushels; barley, 109 bushels; rye, 40 bushels; potatoes, 1,283 bushels; beans, 28 bushels; sugar-cane, 2,222 gallons; cultivated hay, 42 tons; wild hay, 81 tons; tobacco, 180 pounds; wool, 180 pounds; butter, 3,735 pounds; and honey, 225 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

ANDREW BARRON, a native of New York, was born on the 14th of January, 1834, where he lived with his parents until 1866, engaged in logging on the Susquehanna river. In this year Mr. Barron moved to Jefferson county, and engaged in lumbering and farming until 1871, when he came to Minnesota, and located in the town of Southside on a farm in section twenty-five, where he has lived since that date. When he first came to the country, he gave hunting some attention, to supply the wants of his family. He has filled a number of local offices of the town with credit to himself. Was joined in marriage with Miss Carrie Stedje on the 4th of July, 1865. They have four children.

CHARLES DALLY, one of the pioneers of the town, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on the 6th of October, 1810. When a child, the family moved to Wayne county, Ohio. While young, he learned the millwright trade, at which he was employed until twenty-four years of age, when he moved to Bureau county, Illinois. After some time he bought a farm in Putnam county, where he lived until 1856, when he came to Minnesota, and erected a flouring mill at the mouth of Clear Lake, in Stearns county, which was one of the first mills in the county. In 1864, he sold the mill and moved to his present farm in Southside, living on it until 1872, when he moved to Greene county, Iowa, but after a stay of four years, re-

turned to his home in Minnesota. He married Miss Elizabeth McQuillan, who died in 1837. He chose for a second wife, Miss Margaret Wherry, in 1839. They have eight children.

HARRY E. JONES was born in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1837. When he was quite young, the family moved to Stephenson county, where his father erected a flouring mill. In a few years the family moved to Wisconsin, but after two years, returned to Stephenson county. When a youth, Mr. Jones learned the mason trade; which he followed for some time in Illinois, then went to California, where he worked at his trade for two and a half years. In 1862, returned to Illinois, and enlisted in Company E, of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served about eighteen months. After leaving the army, moved to Grinnell, Iowa, where he aided in organizing a company for the State Militia. Then, after visiting California for a few months, came to Minnesota, locating in Monticello, and after living in various places, settled on his present farm in section twenty-three, in 1876. He was joined in marriage with Miss Maria Jane Anderson, on the 9th of October, 1857. They have had seven children, six of whom are living.

THOMAS J. NOYES, a native of Washington county, Maine, was born on the 16th of March, 1839. When an infant, his father died, and in a few years his mother married a Mr. Sylvanus Jenkins. In 1851, the family came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, and in a few months removed to a farm in Brooklyn township, Hennepin county, where the subject of this sketch lived until about 1858, when he made a claim in Maine Prairie, Stearns county. In 1861, he located near Sank Centre, but in a few months returned to Hennepin county. Then, in the spring of 1863, he removed to his present farm in Southside township. He was the first Town Clerk, and has filled most of the town offices. He enlisted in Company I, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in 1864, serving about nine months, and was with Sherman on his famous "March to the Sea." He married Miss Margaret Willey on the 1st of January, 1861. They have three children, all girls.

JACOB RUDOLPH was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on the 19th of March, 1820, where he lived, working on a farm and preparing building timber. In 1866, came to Minnesota, and the following year took a farm in section fourteen, Southside township, where he still resides. He



married Miss Hannah Arb in the year 1847. They have four children. His oldest son, S. M., was born in Pennsylvania on the 14th of June, 1853; has always lived with his father, and for the past few years has rented the farm.

G. W. VAN DEVENDER, a native of Cassopolis, Cass county, Michigan, was born on the 22d of February, 1843. His father was a merchant, and also managed a farm. At the age of eighteen, on the 17th of April, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, of the Second Michigan Volunteer Infantry; he was in about twenty-five different engagements, and was wounded at the battle of Jackson, Mississippi; he was a private for one year, then Orderly Sergeant one year, and then promoted to First Lieutenant, which position he held until discharged in July, 1865. After returning from the army he lived in Michigan until 1878, when he came to his present farm in Southside township. He married Miss Mary A. Kilbourn. They have three children.

## STOCKHOLM.

### CHAPTER CXXXV.

DESCRIPTIVE — EARLY SETTLEMENT — ORGANIZATION — AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS — BIOGRAPHICAL.

This is the extreme southwestern town of Wright county, and contains an area of about 23,000 acres, of which 3,617 are under cultivation. The surface is rolling, and in some parts hilly. The soil is mainly a dark loam with clay sub-soil, and very fertile, producing excellent crops of the variety common in this latitude.

Sucker creek rises in the west central part, flows in a northeasterly course, and crosses the town line south of Cokato village. The principal lakes are, Rice Lake, in the eastern part, Little Lake, in the northwestern part, and still farther west, Collinwood Lake, lying partly in Meeker county. Timber and prairie are about in the same proportion as in Cokato, adjoining it on the north.

The early history of this town is so closely identified with Cokato as to require little detail in addition to the written history of that town, to which the reader is referred.

The present organization was effected in 1868, the first town meeting being held on the 15th of

August, when the following officers were elected: Supervisors, Henry Bull, Chairman, Ole H. Holmberg, and Andrew Swanberg; Clerk and Assessor, Carl Carlson; and Treasurer, Andrew Ahnquist.

The first settlers were Hugh McNulty, on section three, in 1856, Mr. Kincaid, in 1858, and later, the Dustin family. The first Swede settlers came in 1862, the first three of whom were Swan Swanson, John Brown, and Andrew Johnson. About four years later, a large Swede emigration was directed to this town, that nationality now being the leading element in the town. Four good schools are maintained in the township, the houses being situated respectively on sections three, seventeen, twenty-four, and twenty-nine.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mooers Prairie is the exponent of the religious element of the town, and was organized July 6th, 1866, with sixty-three members, which number has since increased to about four hundred. The first pastor was Rev. John S. Nilson, whose successor, Rev. J. G. Lagerstrom, was the first to settle here. His successor was the present clergyman, Rev. P. A. Cederstam, who came in 1874, and is elsewhere mentioned. A small church edifice was erected on section seventeen in 1868, and in 1871-72 a fine parsonage house was also built. In 1876 the old church was supplanted by the present substantial edifice, and the old building purchased by the school district, being since that time devoted to school purposes. Cemetery grounds adjoin the church on the south, making with the building lots, and parsonage grounds, a tract of forty acres, owned by the society.

The products of Stockholm for 1880, as gathered from the agricultural report of that year, were: wheat, 55,710 bushels; oats, 13,082 bushels; corn, 5,570 bushels; barley, 30 bushels; buckwheat, 80 bushels; potatoes, 1,521 bushels; sugar cane, 1,222 gallons; wild hay, 1,603 tons; wool, 2,450 pounds; butter, 11,394 pounds; and honey, 800 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CARL CARLSON, a native of Sweden, was born on the 11th of August, 1816. He held several Government offices in his native country, and was at one time collector of delinquent taxes. He was church chorister for sixteen years, and came to America in 1851, but returned to the old country a year and a half later. In 1859, he again came to America, bringing his family and locating about





forty miles north of St. Paul. Came to Stockholm in 1867, and located on his present farm on section twenty-one. Mr. Carlson was prominent among the organizers of this town; has held the office of Assessor, was the first Justice of the Peace, and, with the exception of three terms, has been Town Clerk since its organization. His dwelling burned in the summer of 1881, including nearly everything in it; the town records, however, were saved. He was united in marriage with Miss Kate Bergman in April, 1838. Of ten children born to them, four are living; Louisa, Carrie, Charles, and Mary. The others died in infancy.

AMOS CHAMBERS is a native of St. Clair county, Michigan, born on the 22d of August, 1834. Came to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in 1852, but soon after, went to Wisconsin, and engaged in the lumber business about two years, then returned to Minnesota and located about half a mile from Cokato, of which town he was one of the organizers, and also held the office of Supervisor for several terms. During the Indian troubles, he took his family to Greenwood for safety, and in July, 1863, enlisted in Company E, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving till July, 1865. Was in the siege of Atlanta, and with Sherman on his "March to the Sea." Came to Stockholm township in 1875, and has since resided on a farm on section three. The first marriage in the town of Mooers Prairie was that of Mr. Chambers and Miss Clara A. Hoyt, adopted daughter of J. P. Mooers. Of nine children, the result of this union, eight are living; Richard N., John S., Sherman T., Frances, Elmer, Wilmot F., Frank, and Marietta.

REV. PETER A. CEDERSTAM, a native of Sweden, was born on the 19th of February, 1830. Came to America in 1853, and after living in New York and Illinois, came to Minnesota in 1855, being the first Swedish Lutheran minister in the State; was located at Chisago Lake, Chisago county, and also did missionary work in other parts of the State. After going to St. Peter in 1858, and organizing a society, he returned to Illinois in 1862, and was obliged to suspend labor for a year on account of ill-health. Came again to Minnesota in 1866, and the following year, took charge of the society at Vasa, Goodhue county, remaining till 1870, after which he traveled as a missionary for two years, organizing churches in Duluth and other places. In 1872, he located at Taylor's Falls, and two years later, in this place. Miss Johanna Leveau became

his wife in 1856, the ceremony taking place at Galesburg, Illinois. They have had six children, four of whom are living; Nathaniel L., Georgiana S., Hulda C., and Esther M.

## VICTOR.

### CHAPTER CXXXVI.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
VILLAGE HISTORY—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—  
BIOGRAPHICAL.

Victor is one of the extreme southern towns in Wright county, and formed part of the town of Middleville until separated as hereafter mentioned. Its area is about 22,400 acres, 4,098 of which are under cultivation. The name was adopted at the suggestion of M. Fosket, who offered this in honor of the town of Victor, in Ontario county, New York.

The town is heavily timbered, and has a rich dark soil, beneath which is a subsoil of clay.

The surface is gently rolling, trending slightly to the northeast, as shown by the direction of the principal water course, Twelve Mile Creek, which forms the outlet to Rice lake, in the town of Stockholm, entering this town from the west, flowing an easterly, then northeasterly course and crossing the east line at the extreme northeast corner. It also forms the outlet of Long Lake, and Lakes Emma, and Ann, flowing through the latter. The three last named lie east of the center of the town, as do also Butler Lake and Lake Mary. Farther north is Dutch Lake, whose western margin forms part of the corporate bound of Howard Lake village. A few other bodies of moderate size give variety to the more western portion of the town, besides which Howard Lake encroaches slightly from the north, and is further mentioned in connection with the village bearing that name. On the south bank of this lake the first cabin was reared in the fall of 1855, by M. V. Cochran, now a resident of Cokato, and noticed in the history of that town. Few others came until the following year, and in 1857. Among those who came thus early were Edwin Brewster, a native of Vermont, who still resides on his original claim in section fifteen. A. J. Gardner, deceased, who came from New York; John F. Pearson, a native of Ohio; Mark Fosket, of New York, A. D. Pinkerton, and



others, most of whom are mentioned elsewhere in this work.

The present town organization was perfected in 1866, and the first town meeting held on the 24th of January of that year, at the residence of Mark Fosket at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, A. D. Pinkerton, Chairman, Jesse Christopher and Abner Pearson; Clerk, George McKinley; Treasurer, J. B. Nelson.

**VILLAGE OF HOWARD LAKE.**—Though the present village organization is of comparatively recent date, it is by no means the first demonstration of the kind having this spot as its objective point. Morgan V. Cochran has already been mentioned as the first to erect a dwelling on this ground. In the fall of 1855, he came here in the employ of a town site company, having been engaged by them to erect a house on the present site of the village. He performed the required labor, and then looked to the company for the promised remuneration, which, however, was never received. Being thus deserted, the company's enthusiasm having died out, Mr. Cochran, the following spring, 1856, took out pre-emption papers on the tract mentioned, which was in section three, and commenced improvements on his own account. Lynden, which was to have been the name of the proposed city, was indefinitely postponed.

The old town site house afterward became the first temple of learning, and within its rude walls were gathered the first band of juvenile students, in the winter of 1858-59, under the supervision and instruction of Miss Jane P. Gleason, now Mrs. M. V. Cochran. Miss Gleason also became the first bride in this town, her marriage with Mr. Cochran dating May 9th, 1859. Still foremost in all good works, this newly wedded couple opened their house for public worship, and a few months after their marriage, the first religious exercises in the place were held at their residence by Rev. William Baisley, a Baptist clergyman. It was not long until the beauty of the location, and the fertility of the soil began to attract settlers, some of whom, peering into the vista of the future, saw what is already partially realized in the present growth and energy of the village. Perhaps, after all, no one is entitled to special credit for founding a village here. Nature had designed it for a comely borough, and it only waited the arrival of men of energy to perfect the plan. In 1863, Mr. Cochran sold his land, on which he had made considerable improvements, to Charles Good-

sell, who occupied it as a farm until completion of the railroad to this point, then, in the spring of 1869, platted the portion of the present site then owned by him, and improvements were at once commenced. The village takes its name from the beautiful sheet of water, on the south of which it is located, and which tradition informs us was named by the first surveyers who visited this region, in honor of John Howard, the English philanthropist. Several buildings were commenced in the spring of 1869, and pushed to rapid completion, Jones and Algine taking the lead. Their building was the Sherman House, and was long used as a hotel, and is about being re-opened by Richard Knights, former proprietor of the leading hotel in Buffalo, the Windsor House. J. M. Markley soon had a frame building fit for occupancy, in which he opened a general store, and during the summer he erected a larger building for mercantile use. George Bayton had opened a stock of goods in a small building previous to Mr. Markley's. John A. Johnson began the erection of a lumber and grist mill about the same time. Another store was opened soon after by J. F. Pearson, and the village made rapid strides in general development. In 1879, the village was incorporated, and its citizens, mostly Americans, constitute a strong temperance community, and steadfastly refuse to grant license for the sale of intoxicating drinks.

The People's Elevator was built in the fall and winter of 1879, by Calvin Mooers, having a capacity of 20,000 bushels, and operated by a six horse-power engine. Mr. D. B. Brown bought a half interest the following year, since which time the firm name is Mooers & Brown. A new elevator is now in process of construction, with capacity of 40,000 bushels.

A Post-office was established in 1860, and A. E. Cochran appointed Postmaster, with the office at his residence on section two. In 1865, he sold his farm to Joseph Pearson, who also became his successor in the office, which he retained till January, 1870, when it was moved to the village, and J. F. Pearson appointed Postmaster. The name of the office was originally Middleville, but changed to Howard Lake at time of removal. In 1877, W. L. McCollum was appointed Postmaster, which position he still retains.

In 1876, a newspaper was started by Orlando E. Hoag, called the "Howard Lake Union." It was a five-column quarto, and was published about a





year, then suspended. On the 12th of June, 1877, Frank Matchett, having purchased the "Union" outfit, commenced the publication of a paper bearing the same name, reducing the size to a five-column folio, afterward changing to its former size, and changing the name to the "People's Advocate," soon after which he sold to Alley & Smith, and they, in February, 1879, to J. E. Warren, from whom it was purchased by the present proprietor, H. Tanner, in October of that year. While in Mr. Warren's hands it was changed to a six-column folio, and by Mr. Tanner to a seven-column folio, which is its present size.

Two stove factories have been built at this place by G. W. Thompson, both of which were destroyed by fire after a brief existence.

In 1878, the Jones House, a commodious and well arranged hotel, was built by H. E. Jones, who still owns and controls it.

The lumber and flouring mills built by John A. Johnson, already mentioned, contributed much to the growth of the village. In 1874, Mr. Johnson took G. W. Thompson as partner, the new firm adding the manufacture of barrel stock. Mr. Draper was admitted to partnership, the firm name being Johnson, Thompson & Draper. In 1876, Mr. Draper retired from the firm, and in 1878, Mr. Johnson leased his partner's share and prosecuted the business alone, afterwards purchasing his share, and now owns and operates it alone, having recently made material alterations and improvements.

**CHURCHES.** — The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1875, with eight members, holding their meetings in the Methodist church until the erection of their own edifice in 1879, which was dedicated on the 28th of December of that year. Rev. J. W. Dickey, the first stated pastor, is still in charge of the society, which now numbers about sixty-two.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1867, and Rev. W. H. Sherman assigned to this charge. Services were held at the house of Joseph Pearson, in section two, until the village commenced its growth, then the schoolhouse became their place of worship, and after a time the building was purchased by the society and fitted up for a church, which they still use. Rev. William Brown is their present pastor. Previous to the organization of the society, Methodist preaching was furnished by the Conference as early as 1866, when Rev. A. H. Abbott was assigned to this, with

other points, holding occasional meetings at Lake Mary.

The Protestant Episcopal Church was organized as a mission in the spring of 1876, by Rev. D. B. Knickerbacker, of Minneapolis, who held service here in 1875. The organization was known as All Saints Mission, and Johnson's Hall was secured as their place of worship. J. A. Johnson was chosen Warden; J. E. Warren, Secretary; and Joseph Robinson, Treasurer. In 1880, they were offered, and accepted the use of the Methodist church, where their meetings were held monthly by Rev. D. B. Knickerbacker, or his Curate, until the consecration of their new church in August, 1881.

The Christian Church was organized in July, 1874, by Rev. J. C. McReynolds, State Evangelist, with eleven members. Their meetings were held at the school house until the completion of their church in 1875. The present membership is about seventy-five, and service is conducted by C. E. Carter when no regular clergyman is present.

A Quaker society was organized in 1870, meetings having previously been held at private houses, and afterward in the old school house, until 1871, when their present house of worship was erected. Service has been conducted most of the time by Daniel McPherson. The present membership is about eighty.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Church is a flourishing society, with a good church edifice, a large membership, and is now in charge of Rev. F. H. Kolbe.

A Masonic Lodge was organized in 1869, with about thirteen charter members, and the following officers: N. C. Rickerson, W. M.; K. Wakefield, S. W.; Frank Lafort, J. W.; Charles Goodsell, Treas.; John A. Johnson, Sec.; C. W. Rickerson, S. D.; J. M. Markley, J. D.; T. Black, Tyler. Lodge meetings were held in Markley's Hall until 1879, when a hall was leased over the store of Smith Brothers & Co., where they have fitted up an elegant Lodge room, and regular communications are held on the second and fourth Saturday evenings of each month. The present numerical strength of the Lodge is about sixty.

Howard Lake Grange was organized in 1873, meeting for a few months at the residences of members of the order, afterward securing a hall in the village. Meetings are now held, at irregular intervals, at the residence of E. Brewster, section fifteen.



The village of Howard Lake was incorporated in 1878, and held an election on the 29th of August of that year, resulting in the election of the following officers: President, C. E. Carter; Trustees, Charles Goodsell, Jonathan Smith, and John F. Pearson; Treasurer, H. E. Jones; Justice of the Peace, F. E. Latham; Recorder, Eugene Johnston; Constable, C. W. Fogle.

An Independent School District was organized, and a building erected about 1870, which was replaced by the present elegant structure in 1875. The new building has four rooms, and three departments are maintained. Five common school districts are organized in the town, where the usual summer and winter terms are held.

We gather from the agricultural report of 1880, the following as the products of Victor for that year: wheat, 49,201 bushels; oats, 18,838 bushels; corn, 25,725 bushels; barley, 3,208 bushels; rye, 66 bushels; potatoes, 6,312 bushels; beans, 37 bushels; sugar-cane, 5,373 gallons; cultivated hay, 276 tons; wild hay, 1,281 tons; tobacco, 392 pounds; wool, 2,708 pounds; butter, 27,825 pounds; and honey, 318 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

MICHAEL ARITT, a native of Alleghany county, Virginia, was born on the 14th of August, 1825. His father died when our subject was but twelve years of age, and he resided on a farm with his mother till 1846, after which, until October, 1874, he was farming for himself in the same county. In the latter year he came to this place, which has since been his home. Mr. Aritt has been twice married; first to Eleanor Rayhill, on the 22d of January, 1846. She died in 1871, leaving eight children. His present wife's maiden name was Osea Dew, the marriage taking place on the 19th of December, 1873. She has borne him three children.

AMOS C. BRONSON was born in Cayuga county, New York, on the 7th of March, 1818. He moved with his parents to Wyoming county in 1832, and in 1837, to Alleghany county, where he was engaged in the manufacture of wagons. Went to California in 1869, and was employed by the Central Pacific Railroad Company to upholster their passenger coaches. He came to Minnesota, and his present farm in 1872, and has since devoted the greater portion of his time to farming. Mr. Bronson's first wife was Laura S. Blakely, to whom he was married in 1838. She died on the

29th of January, 1852. His present wife was Lucinda P. Taylor, a native of New Hampshire, the ceremony taking place on the 6th of February, 1853.

EDWIN BREWSTER, one of the pioneers of this town, was born in Cambridge, Lamoille county, Vermont, on the 7th of March, 1833. When he was young, his parents moved to Huron county, Ohio, where he worked at the carpenter's trade. At the age of nineteen years, he commenced working at the millwright's trade in Vermont, then New York and Canada, and in 1856, came to Minnesota, locating a farm in Hutchinson, McLeod county, and that winter assisted in surveying a road from the latter place to Watertown, it being the first opening in this portion of the county. In May, 1857, he took a claim in section fifteen, Victor township, and the following autumn, brought his family to their new home. During the Indian outbreak, Mr. Brewster served three years in Hatch's Battalion. Since his residence in this place, he has filled nearly all the town offices, and for the past few years, has been engaged in running a portable saw mill and steam thrasher. Was married on the 25th of May, 1854, to Miss Sarah E. Freeman. They have had four children, three of whom are living.

SMITH BENHAM, a direct descendant of the Pilgrim Fathers, was born on the 19th of July, 1831, in Chittenden county, Vermont. He learned the harness maker's trade when quite young, at which he worked, in connection with farming, until coming to Minnesota in 1858. He devoted his time to stock-raising and farming in Houston county, till 1864, when he moved to Nicollet county, and engaged in farming about four miles from Fort Ridgely. He came to his present farm in 1876. Was married to Hannah Allen on the 20th of October, 1853. They have had eight children, six of whom are living.

D. P. BROWN was born in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, on the 16th of October, 1849. He attended school at Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, and assisted his father on the farm until 1877, when he engaged in the cattle business in Wyoming Territory, where he remained for two years, meeting with good success. Then he came to Howard Lake, Minnesota, and engaged in the mercantile trade for a short time, when he purchased a half interest in the People's Elevator, and in connection with it, conducts a general lumber business, the firm name being Mooers and Brown. He





was united in marriage with Miss Isabel Sawyer, a native of Michigan, on the 20th of October, 1872.

C. N. BLISS, a native of Yorkville, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, was born on the 17th of April, 1858. He lived with his parents at Battle Creek and Ionia, Michigan, till five years of age, then went to live with his grandfather, which was his home till 1877, when he came to Minnesota. He located in the village of Howard Lake, and engaged in the furniture business. Mrs. Bliss conducts a Millinery store, the firm being Bliss and Fonda. Mr. Bliss was married to Miss A. Cronk, on the 13th of January, 1877. They have one son, George M.

F. M. BALL was born in Pickaway, Ohio, on the 27th of May, 1839. When he was nine years of age, moved to New Albany, Indiana, where he attended school and studied medicine with Dr. Moore. He then attended the Marion County Medical School in Kentucky, for three years. In 1861, responded to the call for 75,000 men to suppress the Rebellious South. After spending some time in the army and in the state of Illinois, came to Minnesota, in 1864, teaching school in Jordan, Scott county, for two years. Then practiced medicine and kept a drug store in Carver county for about five years, thence to Cokato, Wright county, and thence to Howard Lake in 1880, where he still resides in the practice of his profession. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Hardy, on the 20th of September, 1862. They have five children.

THOMAS R. BRIGGS, a native of Kent county, Rhode Island, was born on the 30th of December, 1826. At the age of twelve, went to live with an uncle in Otsego county, New York. At the age of sixteen, began to serve an apprenticeship of three years at the carpenter trade, at Fall River, Massachusetts, and soon after the three years had expired, began to clerk in a store in the same place. In 1855, came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and during the same year located in what was then called the village of Columbus, now in Anoka county. The following year he moved to Greenwood, Hennepin county, where he opened a store and was proprietor of the "Beaver House." The financial depression of 1857, caused him to close out his business, after which he made Minneapolis his home till 1860, when he returned to Rockford, and was engaged at his trade and studied law till 1863. He enlisted in Hatch's Independ-

ent Battalion, Company B, in 1863, serving on the frontier till 1866. Then returned to his home in Rockford, and in 1867, was elected County Attorney for two years. In 1870, moved to Litchfield, Meeker county, and in 1872, came to his present home. Was admitted to the Bar in 1873, since which time he has given his attention to the practice of law. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Devoll, on the 15th of September, 1853. They have had four children, but one of whom is living.

J. M. BISNOR, M. D., was born in Morgan county, Ohio, on the 20th of November, 1852. When about thirteen years of age, the family moved to Highland county, where he attended school, and studied medicine under Dr. J. F. Bower, after which he attended the Miami Medical College, of Cincinnati, Ohio, graduating in the class of 1874. The same fall he visited Minnesota, and returning, spent several months with Dr. W. H. Reeves, of Springfield, Ohio. Then returned to Minnesota, and located in the village of Howard Lake in 1876, and since that date has given his attention to the practice of medicine. He was married to Miss Nettie A. Scholar, on the 28th of June, 1880.

J. M. COREY was born in Hartford, Windsor county, Vermont. His parents died when he was young, and he made his home in the county till about twenty-two years of age. Then, after living in New Hampshire and New York, he returned to his native State, remaining till 1855. In the latter year he came to Minnesota, locating in Maple Grove township, Hennepin county. Since 1867, he has been a resident of this place, his farm being located on section twenty. On the 25th of October, 1845, Miss Hannah M. Crown became the wife of Mr. Corey. Of ten children, the result of this union, eight are living. Two died while their residence was in Maple Grove.

NATHANIEL CHAFFINS was born on the 1st of April, 1836, in Wayne county, West Virginia. He made his home with his parents till 1854, when he commenced working on neighboring farms. On the 10th of August, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, of the Fifth Virginia Volunteer Infantry, serving till the 9th of October, 1862, when he was discharged for disabilities contracted in service. On returning to his farm he was taken prisoner and confined in the Richmond prison for about four months; then was exchanged, and in 1865, came to Minnesota, and to his present farm on section thirty-two, in the fall of the same year. Was



united in marriage with Polly C. Sumners on the 30th of April, 1853. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living.

E. Y. CULLETON, M. D., a native of Cumberland county, Kentucky, was born on the 25th of August, 1849. At the age of thirteen, moved with his parents to Indiana, where he attended the public schools, and subsequently, the Bedford Academy. In 1870, returned to Kentucky, and immediately commenced the study of medicine with his brother, Dr. R. H. Chilton, and attended the Miami Medical College, of Cincinnati, graduating in 1874. He practiced in Kentucky until 1880, when he came to Howard Lake, and formed a partnership with Dr. J. W. Bishop. He was joined in marriage with Miss Laura Huddleston on the 24th of December, 1875. They have one boy living, named Leo.

E. J. CUTTS, a native of Kennebec county, Maine, was born on the 17th of August, 1844. His father, William Cutts, was a sea captain, and the family moved to New York City about 1853, and at the age of fourteen, the subject of our sketch commenced to clerk in a store in that city. In 1862, he enlisted in the Twenty-second New York Militia, serving in New York and Virginia. In 1869, visited the West Indies for his health, and after returning, came to Minnesota, and lived in Minneapolis and vicinity for four or five years. In 1874, opened a dry goods store at Buffalo, Wright county, and in 1877, came to Howard Lake and opened a general store, where he may be found in the same business. In 1876, was elected to the State Legislature, and re-elected in 1880. He married Miss Jennie M. Oakley on the 8th of May, 1863. They have two children.

C. E. CARTER, a native of Clinton county, Ohio, was born on the 5th of March, 1815. He lived with his father on a farm till 1837, when he commenced to farm for himself, and continued the same in different parts of the county till 1849, when he engaged in a general store in Sligo, in the same county, which he continued for several years. In 1855, he resumed farming, giving it his entire attention till 1864, when he moved to Martinsville, where he resided till 1874, then came to Minnesota and located at Howard Lake. He deals in real estate, and takes an active part in the Christian Church of this place. Mr. Carter has been thrice married, and is now a widower.

REV. J. W. DICKEY was born in Janesville, Ohio, on the 10th of November, 1811. When he was a

boy, the family removed to Chester county, Pennsylvania. He early evinced a fondness for study, and having made a choice of the clerical profession, was licensed to preach, by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, and located in Crawford county. He was soon after ordained by the Presbytery of Erie, and after being located at Mansfield, Ohio, for four years, went to Venango, Pennsylvania, and thence to West Union, Iowa, and in 1876, came to Howard Lake, where he was the first Presbyterian minister. He was married on the 19th of October, 1847, to Miss Elizabeth I. Eaton, daughter of Rev. Johnston Eaton, of Erie, Pennsylvania. They have three children. One son is residing in Fayette county, Iowa; the only daughter is now Mrs. E. B. Shaw, of West Union, Iowa, and Hugh M. resides at home.

MARK FOSKET, one of the early settlers of this section, was born in Newark, Wayne county, New York, on the 8th of March, 1832. When he was an infant, his parents moved to what is now Genesee county, where our subject resided till 1854. Then, after living in Michigan two years and visiting his native State, he came to Minnesota, arriving at Lake Mary, Victor township, on the 4th of May, 1857. He first took a claim in the present town of Woodland, then, after two years, came to his present farm, remaining till 1868. He then returned to New York, and spent nine years in that State and Michigan, after which he came again to his farm in this township, and has since made it his home. Mr. Fosket is a man well posted on general topics, and seems calculated for frontier life. His fellow-citizens appreciate him, having elected him to several local offices, and at present is Chairman of the board of Supervisors. Miss Mary E. Taylor became his wife on the 1st of October, 1876. They have three children.

W. C. FONDA was born at Battle Creek, Michigan, on the 20th of October, 1850. He worked with his father on a farm until twenty-one years of age, when he commenced learning the harness making trade, which business and farming occupied his attention till 1878, when he came to Minnesota. He opened a harness shop in the village of Howard Lake, and remains in the trade. His wife is a partner in the millinery firm of Bliss & Fonda. Mr. Fonda was joined in wedlock with Miss Frances Cronk, on the 28th of April, 1870.

WALLACE GOODSSELL, one of the pioneers of the township, was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, on the 14th of September, 1850. When he was a





boy of twelve years, the family moved to Independence, Hennepin county, Minnesota, living on a farm till the spring of 1865, when they moved to the present site of Howard Lake, and farmed till 1869, when his father laid out the village. After this Mr. Goodsell commenced clerking, and in 1875, opened a general store in the village, and has been one of the most enterprising business men of the place since that time. He was joined in marriage with Miss Liah M. Barnett, on the 12th of October, 1875. They have two children.

II. H. HOUNSOM was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on the 18th of April, 1836. When a small boy the family moved to Nauvoo, Hancock county, Illinois, and in 1851 to Mount Morris, Illinois, where Mr. Hounsom learned the printing business, and continued it till the breaking out of the Rebellion. He enlisted in the One hundred and forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving for about one year. Then was engaged in a printing office in northeastern Missouri, until 1873, when ill health compelled him to move to Minnesota. He opened a notion store at Howard Lake, and did job printing on a foot press, continuing the same to this date. He married Miss Ambrosia Head in 1868. They have one child, Cora.

E. B. HYATT was born near Indianapolis, Indiana, on the 24th of June, 1839. The family moved to Minnesota in 1856, and located near the line between Isanti and Anoka counties, but in the former. The family was among the first Quaker families to locate in the Quaker settlement. Mr. Hyatt lived with his father till 1859, when he went to Richmond, Indiana, learned the carpenter trade and followed the business till 1867, when he came to Wright county, Minnesota, and took a claim in Middleville township, being one of the pioneers of the town, working on his claim and at his trade till 1872. Then spent some time in Minneapolis, before permanently locating at Howard Lake, since which time he has given his attention to contracting and building. He still holds to the Quaker faith, and has always taken a deep interest in the church. He was joined in marriage with Miss Eunice Teas, on the 27th of November, 1861, who died on the 26th of December, 1875. They had four children, three of whom are living.

C. T. HARRIS was born in Saratoga county, New York, on the 10th of September, 1852. While young, his parents moved to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he attended the public schools

of the place. In 1868, the family moved to Ann Arbor, where he attended the University of Michigan, and graduated in the classical course in 1875. Then he became Superintendent of the public schools at Monroe, Michigan, for five years. In 1880, came to Howard Lake, and engaged in mercantile pursuits.

J. H. HOBSON, a native of Jefferson county, Ohio, was born on the 11th of October, 1838. When young, he moved with his father to Washington county, and in 1864, engaged in the hardware business, remaining in the State till coming to Minnesota in 1876. He came to Howard Lake and purchased the hardware store of J. Smith, which he sold in a few years, and in company with Mr. Parker opened a general mercantile store in the spring of 1880. The following spring, Mr. Ball entered as a partner, the firm name now being Parker, Hobson, and Ball. They also opened, in an adjoining building, a stock of hardware, which they still continue, doing a fine business. Mr. Hobson was united in marriage with Miss Lydia M. Bruce, on the 4th of April, 1864. Their union has been blessed with one daughter, Flora A.

WESLEY HUDDLE, a native of Highland county, Ohio, was born on the 15th of May, 1835. When about seventeen years of age, he removed with his parents to Indiana and devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. Came to Wright county in April, 1864, and the following June, moved to a farm near Waverly, remaining one year. Since 1865, Mr. Huddle has been a resident of this place, his farm being situated on section twenty. Was married on the 20th of October, 1860, to Miss Mary H. Evans, of Ohio. She has borne him eleven children, ten of whom are living.

DAVID IRONS is a native of Lincoln county, Ohio, his birth dating the 16th of April, 1831. He remained in the State until coming to Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1847. Came to Minnesota in 1854, and found employment in Albert Lea for two years, then engaged in farming in Blue Earth county, and finally, in 1862, located his present farm. Married Miss Betsy L. Stilson on the 24th of December, 1859. They have had ten children, nine of whom are living.

H. E. JONES, a prominent old settler of the village, was born in Fulton county, New York. His father, Ephraim Jones, was engaged in manufacturing pursuits, in which his son participated till about sixteen years of age. In 1845, Mr. Jones visited Michigan, where he engaged in agricult-



ral pursuits. In 1850, moved to Neenah, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the merchandise trade for one year, then moved to Pennsylvania, and engaged in the same business for three years, when he returned to Michigan and lived till 1861. Then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and for four years traveled in that State, and employed his time in various occupations. In 1865, located on a farm in Woodland, Wright county; then, in 1869, when the village of Howard Lake was laid out, moved to this place and erected the first frame building, known as the "Sherman House." In 1871, he started a general store, and was one of the active business men of the town. In 1879, he opened the "Jones House," since which time he has closed out his other business and given his attention to the hotel. In 1877, was elected County Commissioner and held the office for three years.

JOHN A. JOHNSON, a native of Leicester, England, was born on the 1st of February, 1834. When young, served an apprenticeship of six and a half years at the plumber and coppersmith trade in his native city. Then spent some years in various places in Europe, working at his trade until 1854, when he emigrated to America. He located in Lexington, Michigan, and engaged in contracting and building. The following year he moved to Canada, and in 1857, came to Minnesota, stopping one year in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Then went to Watertown, Carver county, and engaged in the milling business until 1869. As soon as Howard Lake was platted, he moved here and erected a flouring and saw mill, it being the third frame building in the place, which he continues to operate. He also has an interest in a mill at DeGraff, Swift county, which was built in 1879. He was married to Miss Catharine A. Stoltz on the 13th of December, 1865. They have six children.

F. H. KOLBE, pastor of the German Lutheran Church, was born in Saxony, Germany, on the 27th of August, 1841. He attended the schools at Leipzig, and in 1866, enlisted in the German army, served two years and came to America. He entered a college at St. Louis, Missouri, at which he graduated in 1871. Then, came to Minnesota and took charge of a church at Green Isle, Sibley county. Since 1879, he has been a resident of Howard Lake and pastor of the church as above mentioned. Mrs. Kolbe's maiden name was Agnes Klenkenberg. She has borne him five children, three of whom are living.

RICHARD KNIGHTS, proprietor of the Sherman

House, was born near Sherbrooke, Canada, on the 5th of March, 1830. In 1871, he moved to the United States, and was a resident of New Hampshire for six months, then to Minnesota, living in Rockford, Wright county, till March, 1873; thence to Minneapolis, and two years later, to Buffalo, where he engaged in the manufacture of lumber, staves, etc. In November, 1877, he opened a hotel in which he did a good business, and was a very popular landlord. In June, 1881, purchased this hotel, which he remodeled and opened in the fall of the same year. On the 25th of February, 1852, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Wigget, who was born in England, but came to America in early childhood. They have had eight children; Ada, Ann E., Mary, (now Mrs. Bryant, living in Monticello) Austin, Madaline, Isabel, Herbert, and Hattie. On the 8th of July, 1881, Herbert was thrown from a horse and sustained injuries from which he died on the 19th of July, being unconscious from the time of the injury.

HALVORD LARSON is a native of Sweden, born on the 28th of October, 1840. He engaged in various occupations in his native country until coming to America in 1869, after which he was employed on the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba railroad, then on the Northern Pacific railroad until 1875, when he located on a farm in this place, which has since been his home. In February, 1872, he was married to Christiana Peterson, who has borne him three children.

J. CRAIG LONG was born in Donegal county, Ireland, on the 19th of December, 1847. When an infant, the family emigrated to America, locating in New York City for one year. In 1850, they moved to Freeport, Illinois. His father was a merchant, and his son assisted him in the store until twenty-one years old. Soon after attaining his majority, went to Maquoketa, Iowa, and opened a dry goods store, which he controlled for five years, then moved to Independence, where he continued in the same business for some years. In 1879, came to his present home in Howard Lake, and immediately identified himself with the place by opening a drug store, in which business he still continues.

J. W. MORDAN, a native of Concord, New Hampshire, was born on the 9th of November, 1857. He came to Ypsilanti, Michigan, with his parents in 1868, where he attended school and graduated in the "Pharmacy Department," in 1876. The





following year, located with his parents at Three Rivers, Michigan, and after three years came to Minnesota, and soon after located at Howard Lake, engaging in business with C. T. Harris, under the firm name of Harris and Morgan, which he still continues. He was united in marriage with Miss Jessie P. Wheeler, of Three Rivers, Michigan, on the 25th of May, 1880.

WILLIAM L. MCCOLLUM was born in McHenry county, Illinois, on the 2d of October, 1844. He lived with his parents until he responded to the call for 75,000 men for three months, in 1861. In 1862, came to Minnesota, and soon after, enlisted in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, in Company F, serving thirteen months, and on his return enlisted in Brackett's Battalion, fighting the Indians on the plains; was mustered out of service in May, 1866. Then located in Scott county, Minnesota, where he lived till 1874, when he moved to Watertown, Carver county, and engaged in mercantile business for eighteen months. In 1876, came to Howard Lake and opened a drug store, which he still continues. He was appointed Postmaster in 1877, which office he still holds. He was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Freer on the 1st of January, 1868. They have had six children, three of whom are living.

LOUIS OLSON was born in Christiana, Norway, on the 14th of November, 1843. At the age of eighteen, learned the tailor trade, following that occupation till 1869, when he emigrated to the United States. After working at his trade for a year and a half in Minneapolis, opened a merchant tailoring establishment in St. Paul, which he conducted till 1881, when he moved to Howard Lake, where he now resides.

JAMES B. NELSON dates his birth in Greenup county, Kentucky, on the 9th of February, 1840. He was apprenticed to a shoemaker when quite young, and followed that occupation until eighteen years of age, when he came to Scioto county, Ohio. He found employment in the flouring mills of that section until 1865, when he came to Minnesota and selected the farm on which he now lives. Mr. Nelson, although denied the privileges of an early education, has acquired a fund of information fitting him for almost any business in life. He was the first Treasurer of Victor township. Mary Jane Smith became his wife on the 10th of October, 1861. They have nine children.

B. F. PARKER was born in Randolph county, Indiana, on the 14th of September, 1838. His father

died when he was but ten years old, and at the age of fifteen, he took charge of the farm, managing it until twenty-two years of age. Then worked at the carpenter trade till 1863, when he moved to Union City, working at his trade and engaged in mercantile pursuits till 1869. Then came to Minnesota and took a homestead in the town of Middleville, Wright county, and commenced opening a new farm. In 1878, came to Howard Lake, being employed in a store for a time. In August, 1880, formed a partnership with Hobson, known as Parker & Hobson, in a general mercantile trade. In February, 1881, the firm name was made Parker, Hobson & Ball. He was joined in marriage with Miss Margaret Horn, on the 9th of February, 1862. Of four children, but one is living.

JAY PEASE, a native of Monroe county, New York, was born on the 22d of November, 1834. At the age of eighteen, the family moved to Green county, Wisconsin, where he lived till 1862, when he went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming for several years. Then went to Dodge county and other places, engaging in various kinds of employment until 1873, when he went to New Ulm, where he kept a hotel for one and one-half years, then after living for a time in Redwood Falls and Sleepy Eye, located in Howard Lake in 1876, and engaged in the insurance business. He married Amelia Jane Lytle on the 24th of December, 1861. They have three children.

A. P. PARKER was born in Androscoggin county, Maine, on the 17th of October, 1825. When about twenty years old he became engaged in the dairy business in Boston, continuing that occupation for eight years. He then went to San Francisco, and remained on the Pacific slope, engaged in mining the greater portion of the time until 1866, when he came to Minnesota. After residing in East Minneapolis about two years, he came to the farm on which he now lives. Miss Margaret Pannett became his wife on the 29th of June, 1867. They have had five children, four of whom are living.

A. D. PINKERTON is one of the pioneers of Minnesota. He was born at Ovid, Seneca county, New York, on the 8th of December, 1825. When the subject of this sketch was a lad his father died, and he went to live with his grandfather. At the age of eighteen years he went to Wisconsin, and thence to Illinois, where he was engaged in farming until 1853. He then came to Minnesota, being one of the first settlers in Mower



county. He built the first house on the site of the present city of Austin, which he helped to survey and plat. In 1855, he came to Albert Lea, and the following year moved to Blue Earth county, where he conducted a farm for seven years. He came to the farm on which he now lives in 1863, and the following year enlisted in Company F, of the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving till the close of the war. Returning to this township he has taken an active part in its public affairs. He was the first Chairman of Supervisors, and has held a number of local offices since. Mr. Pinkerton was united in marriage with Miss C. Amelia Woodbury, on the 14th of June, 1849. They have been blessed with seven children.

J. P. PEARSON, one of the pioneers of Victor township, was born in Clinton county, Ohio, on the 10th of August, 1835. When he was an infant, the family removed to Indiana, and in 1857, the subject of our sketch left home and came to Minnesota, locating in Victor township in April of the same year. After residing on his farm until 1869, he came to the village of Howard Lake where he now lives. He has been engaged in mercantile pursuits most of the time since coming to the village, but is now devoting the greater part of his time to dealing in stock. He was the first Postmaster at Howard Lake, holding the office until 1877. He was united in marriage with Mrs. Margaret Buck, on the 18th of March, 1867. They have one child, Addy L. Mrs. Pearson had one son by her former marriage, named Chassias M.

N. C. RICKERSON was born in Newport, Campbell county, Kentucky. When about sixteen years old, commenced traveling through the South on business, which he continued for three years. His father, in the mean time, moved to Louisville, Kentucky, where Mr. Rickerson went and assisted his father in the furniture trade. He next opened a furniture store in Harrison county, then went to Missouri for eight years, and came to Minnesota in 1855. He engaged in the furniture business in St. Paul till 1861, after which he moved on a farm near Watertown, Carver county, and in 1865, purchased a farm, now joining the town site of Howard Lake, which he sold in the spring of 1881, and opened a furniture store in the village, under the name of Rickerson and Son. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine L. Brooks. They have eight children.

C. W. RICKERSON, a native of Harrison county,

Kentucky, was born on the 27th of December, 1847. Lived with his father in Kentucky and Missouri, and came with his parents to Minnesota in 1855. While the family lived at Watertown, at the age of sixteen he enlisted in Company B, of Hatch's Independent Battalion, serving on the western frontier for three years. After returning, located in Howard Lake, in July, 1869, taking charge of the depot, as station agent, which position he still occupies. During the summer of 1881, formed a partnership with his father in the furniture business. He married Miss Eusebia J. Gray on the 1st of January, 1870. They have two children; a boy and a girl.

ALBERT SMITH, a native of Hancock county, Illinois, was born in 1851. He attended the public schools of his native town and subsequently, Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois. Then engaged in the dry goods business with his father, William Smith, in which he continued till 1872, when he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Meeker county. In 1875, returned to Illinois, where he lived till 1878, when he came to his present home in Howard Lake, and formed a partnership with his brother in the hardware and agricultural implements business, under the name of "Smith Brothers & Hobson." The following year Mr. Alley bought Mr. Hobson's interest, and now the firm is "Smith Brothers & Co." He was joined in marriage with Miss Hannah J. Alley on the 3d of November, 1880.

H. A. SMITH was born in Knox county, Ohio, on the 1st of August, 1841. When quite young, he came with the family to what is now Green Lake county, Wisconsin, and resided with his father until 1864, when he enlisted in Company B, of the Forty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, but served only a few months. He was then engaged, for about a year, in the harness business at Ripon, Wisconsin. In 1865, he came to Minnesota, but a portion of the time between that and 1880, was spent in Iowa, being in business for himself a portion of the time. In the latter year he came to Howard Lake and established himself in the harness business, which he still continues.

CHARLES SCHWALBE was born in Prussia on the 16th of August, 1835. When five years of age he came with his parents to America, settling in East Sterling, Wayne county, Pennsylvania. In 1857, Charles came to Carver county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Laketown, but in 1874, removed to this town, which has since been his





home. Mr. Schwalbe has taken quite a prominent part in town affairs since coming here, and is serving his fourth term as Supervisor. He was married on the 28th of February, 1857, to Miss Louisa Rhoda. They have seven children, four boys and three girls.

HERBERT TANNER, editor of the "People's Advocate," is a native of Devon, England, and came to America in 1866. He first settled in Carver county, Minnesota, where he was engaged for a number of years in the mercantile business. He came to Wright county in 1871, and selected his present home in section thirty-six, Middleville township. He soon after opened a store at his residence, and conducted it until 1875, when he closed out the business and devoted his energies exclusively to farming for a few years. In October, 1879, he assumed the editorial and business management of the "Advocate," in which he has attained a degree of success far in advance of his predecessors, having largely increased its circulation, and placing it upon a financial basis wholly new in its history. He was united in marriage with Miss Esther Dunn, of Carver county, in 1872.

J. E. WARREN, a native of Rhode Island, was born on the 15th of September, 1841. His father, William Warren, a native of England, was one of the first engravers to come to the United States, after the commencement of the manufacture of calico in this country. While Mr. Warren was an infant, the family moved to Dover, New Hampshire, where he attended the High School, and then Franklin Academy of the same place, graduating in 1857. The following year, came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and engaged in teaching school in different parts of the State till 1865, when he opened a store in Forest City, Meeker county. While a resident of that county, was elected Superintendent of public schools. In 1867, he located in Clearwater, Wright county, and served as Deputy Revenue Collector, and during the same year was elected Register of Deeds, and resided at Buffalo. In 1874, came to Howard Lake, taking charge of the schools for four years. Having studied law, was admitted to the Bar in October, 1876, and has since practiced in this place. In 1879, owned and edited the "People's Advocate," the only paper in the place. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Branham on the 11th of June, 1863. She was the daughter of Jesse V. Branham, one of the old settlers of

Meeker county, and died on the 18th of July, 1881, leaving one daughter, Jessie.

WILLIAM WATROUS, one of the pioneers of the town, was born in Wyoming county, New York, on the 8th of December, 1830. When he was seven years old his mother died, and he soon after commenced working on the neighboring farms, continuing that employment there until 1857, when he came to Minnesota. He selected a claim amid the heavy timber on the west bank of Lake Mary, where, by energy and good management, he has opened up one of the best farms in the township. He was married on the 10th of March, 1852, to Miss Laura L. Freeman, a native of Connecticut. They have two children, a son and daughter.

## WOODLAND.

### CHAPTER CXXXVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Woodland is one of the four southern towns of the county, its southern boundary being the county line between Wright and Carver counties. Its area is about 23,050 acres, of which 2,600 are under cultivation. Its surface is rolling, and heavily timbered, except where the march of civilization has removed portions of the primeval forest, leaving well tilled farms in their stead. It is watered by Grimshaw creek and its tributaries, and has several small lakes, the principal of which are Mud Lake in the northeastern part, Garrigan Lake in the northern, and Buckle's, Longwood, Wolf's, Porter's, and Ida lakes in the southwestern part.

Nearly every nationality found in the Northwest has its representatives here. The first blow struck in this forest region was by the Grimshaw brothers, who built a claim shanty in the north part of the town in the spring of 1855, and in May of that year, sold to M. V. Cochran and Ezra M. Stacy. This claim was near the present village of Montrose. John Brabec, a Bohemian, came here from Illinois, where he spent one year after leaving his native country, in the fall of 1856, and took a claim on section twenty, where he still resides. In June, 1857, Cramer Swartout, a native of Saratoga county, New York, settled on section twelve, which is his present home. In Sep-



tember, 1857, John Lanzer, a native of Bohemia, settled in the town, and the same year, James McGrath was added to the band of pioneer settlers. Mrs. Kline, a widow, now Mrs. Thomas Young, was among the early arrivals, and is remembered by the early settlers as a woman of remarkable energy and perseverance, having once walked from the present village of Montrose to Forest City, a distance of forty miles, pre-empted her land, and returned in two days. During her first year here she was once lost in the woods, and not found until the evening of the third day, when she was discovered about five miles from her cabin, tired, though unharmed, and in good condition to participate in a banquet.

Woodland was organized in 1858, but owing to missing records, the list of first officers is wanting. Mr. Cramer Swartout states that he and Miles McDermot were the first Justices of the Peace, and that Andrew Stacy, at whose house the election was held, was the first Town Clerk. Mr. Stacy was among the earliest settlers, and located in section one. He is not living now.

There is one church in the town—the Swedish Lutheran—in section thirty-one. Five schools are maintained in the town during the usual terms.

The products of Woodland in 1880, according to the agricultural report, were: wheat, 40,079 bushels; oats, 21,321 bushels; corn, 20,400 bushels; barley, 201 bushels; potatoes, 4,449 bushels; beans, 35 bushels; sugar-cane, 2,348 gallons; cultivated hay, 161 tons; wildhay, 1,622 tons; tobacco, 300 pounds; wool, 2,163 pounds; and butter, 18,095 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

RICHARD BENNETT, a native of Allegany county, New York, was born on the 17th of October, 1854, and in early childhood removed with the family to Michigan, settling on a farm. In 1857, the family sought a home in Minnesota, locating on their present farm in section three, where the father died October 11th, 1874. Richard has filled the office of Supervisor one year and been twice elected to the office of Assessor since attaining his majority. His mother died March 25th, 1872, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Waverly. Since her death the care of the old home has devolved upon him, in which work he is assisted by his brother, John W., whose birth dates November 20th, 1862. Three sisters, Mary, Margaret, and Ellen, all born in this town, are with the brothers in the old home. Another

sister, Catharine H., is in the convent at Mendota.

PATRICK BUCKLEY, fifty-two years of age, dates his nativity in the county of Cork, Ireland. In 1857, he came to America, worked nine years in the woolen mills at Little Falls, New York, then came to Minnesota, and a few years after, to Knox county, Missouri, where he remained six years. He returned to Minnesota in 1879, and has since made this town his home. In 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary McDonald, whose birthplace was Ireland. Four boys and three girls have been born to them, all living at home except the oldest daughter, who is married.

WILLIAM W. CROOKS, a member of the board of County Commissioners of Wright county, was born in Allen county, Ohio, on the 9th of October, 1836. At the age of six years, he removed with the family to Miami county, Indiana, from which place he returned to Ohio in 1857, and taught a six months term of school at Westminster, and in the spring of 1858, came again to Indiana, where his time was employed in teaching in winter, and when not otherwise engaged, at carpenter work in summer, until his marriage with Miss Margaret E. Holliday, of Fulton county, Indiana, which occurred March 14th, 1861. Their nuptials were celebrated at Logansport, where Mr. Crooks had spent two summers at school, devoting his vacations to his trade. In September, 1864, he came to this State, selected his present home in section twenty-eight, and in October following, brought his family here, and has since been one of the foremost citizens of the town. He has been Assessor three terms, Town Clerk for 1880-81, was appointed to take the census of his town in 1880, and in 1879, was elected County Commissioner. His summers have been devoted to farming since settling in Woodland, and his winters to teaching, closing his twenty-third term of school, since that first mentioned, in the spring of 1881. Of five children born to this couple, four are living; Eliza E., Carrie L., Fanny B., and Loftus J. An infant son, Thomas R., died in 1874.

JOHN WILLIAM CRUZEN was born on the 14th of March, 1833, in Green county, Ohio, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, and lived until thirty-five years of age. His father died in August, 1873, and was buried in Illinois, whither he had removed; his mother is still living in the State, at Walnut Hill, Jefferson county. Mr. Cruzen came to his present farm in November, 1866, and has now about one hundred acres under im-





provement, the whole farm embracing three hundred and twenty acres. In 1855, he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Pierson, whose birthplace was in the same county as his own. Of eleven children born to them, ten are living, and all still enjoy the shelter of the parental roof except Tabitha E., who is now the wife of James Holliday, of this town.

THOMAS J. JORDAN, now about sixty years of age, is a native of Ireland, where his time was spent in farming and working at the weaver's trade, which he learned when quite young. In 1841, he came to America, and after brief periods spent in New York and Massachusetts, located in Pennsylvania, where he remained until coming to Minnesota in 1858. After spending four years in St. Paul, he was employed for a short time in Dayton, after which he came to his present farm of two hundred acres in this town. He has held the office of Supervisor, and Treasurer of his school district. He married Miss Julia Davitt, in 1852, who also was born in Ireland, both in the county of Mayo. Her birth dates December 22d, 1835. Of twelve children born of this union, one is dead, one at Wilmar in this State, and the others at home.

JOHN LANZER is a native of Bohemia, in the eastern part of which province his birth occurred June 15th, 1830. He left the land of his birth in 1857, coming to this State soon after his arrival in New York, reaching St. Paul in September, and thence to this town, which has since been his home. Until 1863, he lived with his parents in section seventeen, but is now on his own estate which lies on the southwestern shore of Longwood Lake, in section thirty. Miss Anna Brabee, also of Bohemian birth, became his wife in 1857, and has borne him five children, three boys and two girls. The family are, without exception, interested in liter-

ary matters, and their library is such as is seldom found in rural homes.

EWEN McDONALD was born on Christmas Eve in Upper Canada, and grew to manhood in his native place, being engaged in lumbering until 1862, when he went to Kansas, and for one year was a foreman on the Southern Pacific railroad. In 1864, he came to Minneapolis, and was in the employ of D. W. Morrison, about six months. In 1866, he secured his present farm in section twenty-eight, where he has now about forty acres under cultivation. He has filled the office of town Supervisor five or six years, and also that of Treasurer. He married Miss Mary A. Early, a native of Rhode Island, in 1869. Six children, the result of this union, are all living, and at home.

LUDWIG SCHULTZ, whose birth at Mecklenburg, Germany, is dated November 21st, 1835, is a man of Agricultural tastes, and has been a tiller of the soil here since about the close of the late war. He left his native land in 1858, and coming to New York, engaged in farming. Mr. Schultz was among that class of intelligent, patriotic foreigners who, having sought a home in this great Republic, were ready to aid in maintaining the Government, whether assailed by foreign or domestic foes, and in October, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, of the Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers, participating in the second battle of Bull Run, also the battles of Fair Oaks, Peach Orchard, James River, Antietam, Harper's Ferry, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and the memorable battle in front of Richmond. After three years of active service, he was mustered out at Richmond, on the 21st of August, 1863. He was twice wounded during his term of service; once in the knee, and once in the arm. Miss Mary Belka, a native of Prussia, became the wife of Mr. Schultz in 1866, the fruit of their union being a family of nine children, five of whom are boys.



## MORRISON COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CXXXVIII.

DESCRIPTIVE—PIKE'S FORT—EARLY SETTLEMENT—  
TRADING POSTS—ORGANIZATION—PAPER TOWNS—  
INDIAN MURDERS—GRASSHOPPERS—RAILROADS—  
SAW MILLS.

Morrison county is in central Minnesota; is about forty-two miles east and west, and its western part, about forty miles north and south. It is bounded on the north by Cass and Crow Wing counties, east by Crow Wing and Mille Lacs, south by Benton and Stearns, and west by Todd county. That portion lying east of the Mississippi river was originally included in Benton county, and that west of the Mississippi once formed a part of Todd county. The county has an area of 1,139 square miles or 728,960 acres, of which about 16,000 are under cultivation.

The surface is rolling, and well timbered, interspersed with a number of prairies, and lakes. In the eastern portion are about ten townships mostly valuable for their timber, consisting chiefly of pine and maple. In the northwestern part of the county, about five townships are of the same kind of timber land. From the pine region north on the west side of the Mississippi river, south to the county line, is an almost unbroken forest. The soil of this region is remarkably good, while for ten miles south of the pine region, extensive natural meadows are to be found.

The country east of the river, not included in the pine districts, contains but little timber, some brush land, marsh and meadow land, and some prairie. The soil is generally good.

Pike's Fort was once located on the west side of the Mississippi river, about fifty rods below the rapids. At this place the bank rises about fifteen feet, on the summit of which the stockade was built. This stockade as shown by recent measurements, was about thirty-eight feet square. In Pike's account it is stated that his fleet consisted

of two long boats, one of which they put upon either side of the passage way from the stockade to the river. The distance from the water's edge being not over sixty feet in low water, there is no inconsistency in his statement.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.—The early movements of the traders in this county are somewhat complicated. In 1826, Charles Larose and Charles Chawboile had a trading post for two winters on a small flat on the east side of the Mississippi river near the Big Bend. In 1837, when Wadena came down from the north country, he found two trading posts near together on the west side of the Mississippi river, just below the present ferry crossing at Swan river. The buildings then appeared quite old. A Mr. Broee traded at the same point after Larose and Chawboile left.

An Indian trading post was established at a very early day on the east side of the Mississippi river, now in Bellevue town. The only credible account given is from Duncan McDougal, who formerly lived in that town, but now resides in Becker county. He says he was at that place in the spring of 1849, and that the logs of the building were then about half decayed. He also says the post had been run by August Bellangier and Baptist Roy, for Allen Morrison.

Previous to 1835, all goods were brought across from Lake Superior, but after this date, from points below on the Mississippi river. About 1844, a Mr. Ewing, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, in company with others, started a trading post at Swan river on the east side of the Mississippi. Philip Beanpre and Lewis Merrow were employed by this company in 1846. This firm was superseded by Peter Chontean & Co.

The first missionary in this county was the Rev. Samuel Spates. He was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, on the 31st of January, 1815, and sent by the Methodist Episcopal Church into the Northwest, and established a Mission near the





mouth of Little Elk river in October, 1839. He was assisted by Revs. Allen Huddleston, George Copway, and John Johnson; the latter being a converted Ojibway Indian. Mr. Spates afterwards moved to Sandy Lake, then to Fond-du-Lac, and in 1856, returned to Little Falls, and after two years removed to Cannon Falls, Minnesota, where he still lives, and is engaged in preaching. Neither of his assistants remained long with him in the good cause, except John Johnson, who soon after 1839, moved to Gull Lake, and subsequently to White Earth, where he engaged in missionary work, having been ordained as an Episcopal clergyman.

William Nicholson, now a resident of the town of Little Falls, is probably the oldest white settler in the county. He came to Swan river in the summer of 1847, in company with ten other men. They forded the Mississippi river just below where the Swan river ferry now is located, and made a raft of hewed timber from pine trees growing on the river bank, for use in the construction of the first dam at St. Anthony Falls. They run the raft but a few miles, then abandoned it on account of low water. Nicholson went below, returning in 1848, and crossed the Mississippi river at the same place, in company with twenty-two men, and cut a road through to Long Prairie, returning, after completing the road, and found William Aitkin, who had made a claim and was building a hotel and store, on the east bank of the Mississippi river at the crossing.

William Aitkin located at Swan River, now in the town of Little Falls, in 1848, and conducted an Indian trading post.

Father Pierz, a Catholic missionary, came to Minnesota, among the Chippewa Indians, in 1852, and finding the country well adapted to agriculture, he wrote letters describing the beauty of the country and the richness of the soil, and sent them to several of the leading papers in Germany and America, which soon caused a large German emigration to this part of the country, a part of which located in Morrison county. A brief account of this noble missionary's acts at the time of the Indian outbreak, will sufficiently illustrate his character. In the fall of 1862, during the Indian war, the Chippewa Indians under their chief, Hole-in-the-Day, were assembled at Gull Lake, threatening an attack on the white settlers. Father Pierz was in the vicinity of St. Paul at the time, and hearing of the hostile atti-

tude of the Indians, immediately set out alone to go to Gull Lake, traveling day and night. On his way he met the Indian guards, who positively refused to let him pass. He insisted, and unable longer to withstand his importuning, the guards picked him up and carried him over the "dead line," across which they were ordered to let no white man pass alive. He proceeded to their camp and saw their chief. What effect this interview with Hole-in-the-Day had, is not definitely known, but the Indians did not attack the whites as contemplated. Too much cannot be said of Father Pierz in commendation. It is certain the white people had in him a friend who would not desert them in time of great danger. He labored in the mission field till 1874, when he retired on account of old age, going to Germany to spend the remainder of his days. He died in Germany in January, 1880, having lived to the ripe old age of ninety-two years.

Mr. Frederick Ayer, a native of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, was sent out by the American Board of Foreign Missions, and came to Sandy Lake, Minnesota, in 1831, and to Red Lake in 1842, and finally to Belle Prairie, in this county, in 1848. Being a persevering and energetic man, he soon opened a large farm, doing the first breaking done in Morrison county, in 1849, with oxen borrowed from Hon. Henry M. Rice. Desiring to continue his work among the Indians and the settlers in the county, he erected a large dwelling house in 1850, and a commodious school house, which also served as a church for a number of years. The house is yet standing, after the lapse of more than thirty years, a fit monument to perpetuate the memory of one who spent his whole life in the cause of education and religion.

Mr. O. A. Coe came to Minnesota in 1838, working on the St. Croix and Snake rivers. He first visited Belle Prairie in 1849, and came to this place in 1853, since which time he has been principally engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Rev. A. B. Adams, a missionary, who went to Red Cedar, or Cass Lake, about 1845, came to this county and settled at Platte River, and preached for several years, and then moved to Michigan.

There are other names that might be mentioned here, but are reserved for their respective towns.

ORGANIZATION.—Morrison county was organized by an act of the Territorial Legislature, approved on the 25th of February, 1856.



The first election was held on the 14th of April, 1856, and the following officers elected: William Trask, Elliot J. Kidder, and W. W. Stebbins County Commissioners; Nathan Richardson, Register of Deeds; James Fergus, Judge of Probate; Jonathan Pugh, Sheriff; W. B. Fairbanks, District Attorney; W. W. Tuttle, and John Fry, Assessors.

The village of Little Falls was made the county seat by the act providing for the organization of the county, and still retains that distinction. The first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held at Little Falls on the 1st of May, 1856, at which time the Commissioners divided the county into three electoral precincts; Little Falls, Platte River, and Swan River. The first term of Court was held on the 15th of May, 1856, and on the 5th of November, the Commissioners voted to pay William Sturgis the sum of eight thousand dollars, to build a Court House for Morrison county, and on the 24th of the same month, bonds to that amount were issued and delivered to William Sturgis. There were eight bonds of one thousand dollars each, the first falling due in three years; and one each subsequent year until all became due, interest at twelve per cent. per annum until paid. Mr. Sturgis at once proceeded with the erection of the Court House, and after getting it roofed and inclosed, but still far from completion, failed, leaving the building in an unfinished condition. He had, prior to this, disposed of the bonds to a banker in Washington, D. C., who demanded payment as the bonds fell due, but was refused by the County Commissioners, because the Court House had not been completed according to contract. After many attempts to adjust the bond claim, running through a number of years, in July of 1869, a compromise was effected, under the administration of William Butler, William Harrison, and Richard L. Trask, then County Commissioners. By the terms of this compromise, the old bonds were surrendered and new ones issued to the amount of eight thousand dollars, bearing seven per cent. interest, one thousand dollars falling due each year until paid. These bonds were paid as they became due. In the spring of 1858, the Commissioners organized four townships; Belle Prairie, Granite, Little Falls, and Bellevue, the four organizations comprising all the territory of the county. Subsequently, the town of Granite was added to Belle Prairie, and a number of new towns have since been organized. The present towns of the county are, Belle Prairie,

Bellevue, Buckman, Cudrum, Elmdale, Green Prairie, Little Falls, Motley, Oakwood, Parker, Pierz, Swan River, and Two Rivers.

This county, like others, was visited with the town site mania. Twenty-four town plats were recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Morrison county, from 1855 to 1858. Not all of these, however, were located in Morrison county. Many were platted on unsurveyed Government lands. None of these towns ever attained any degree of prominence, except Fergus Falls, in Otter Tail county, and Little Falls. Fergus Falls was located by a company that went from Little Falls in 1856. James Fergus, after whom the place was named, was a member of that company. The same company founded a number of other towns in the western part of the State, but all were short lived. Those located in Morrison county have all disappeared, except Little Falls. A few made strenuous efforts to maintain an appearance, and succeeded for some time. These were Swan River, Belle Prairie, and Granite City. Those established for mere speculation were, Lulo, Buckfield, Big Bend, Little Elk, Jamesville, and Olean. These have a name only in the annals of the early days of the pioneer fathers.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT.

It is generally believed that James Green was the first permanent settler of this county. He took a squatter's claim on the east bank of the Mississippi river, at the present site of Little Falls, in 1848. He built a saw mill, and secured water power by building a wing dam to the island above, making a head of about three feet, which was enough to do a good business with the abundant supply of water. He also made a boom by fastening one end on the west bank of the river, near Little Falls ferry landing, and the other to the head of the island below, and by this means managed to run most of the logs into the mill pond. This must have been in the fall of 1849. Soon after its construction, Mr. Green died, when H. M. Rice and Captain Todd bought the mill. They sold to William Sturgis in 1850, who run the mill until 1854, when he sold a two-thirds interest to James Fergus and Calvin A. Tuttle, and formed a co-partnership known as the Little Falls Company. The lands on the east side of the Mississippi were surveyed in 1852. Prior to this, John M. Kidder, father-in-law of William Sturgis, had filed a pre-emption claim covering that portion of the east bank of the Mississippi river, embracing the water power.





The Little Falls Company purchased the land included in the Kidder claim, of Mr. Sturgis, he having purchased it from the heirs of John M. Kidder, deceased, who died before the land came into market, so that the Little Falls Company purchased the land of the government at the first land sale, in November, 1855. This purchase of the Company included the Kidder claim and the land adjoining, upon which the village of Little Falls is located, amounting in all to about two thousand acres. This company continued but a short time, and then merged into a joint stock company, in the fall of 1855, known as the Little Falls Manufacturing Company. This Company issued stock to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, Fergus, Sturgis, and Tuttle taking half the stock, and the remainder sold readily for fifty thousand dollars, cash. The stock advanced rapidly until it reached two hundred and fifty per cent., at which price most of the shares changed hands. About seventy-five thousand dollars were expended in improving the water power at this place, and in building a dam, bridge, and mills. While the Manufacturing Company had plenty of money they spent it indiscriminately. It is stated that in constructing their dam on the east side of the island, the water was first shut off by a horse dam, that sand and gravel was hauled in to the depth of two or three feet, to make a level bed on which to place the frame of the principal dam. The bed of the river was rocky and uneven, well fitted to hold the foot of a substantial dam, but some of its constructors thought a smooth sand bed was preferable, and hence it was so constructed. In connection with the dam, this Company built a fine Howe truss bridge. This bridge was constructed in the winter of 1857-58, and the main portion stood for many years. After about nine years it was found to be rotting, when the board of County Commissioners had it repaired, but soon afterward it was blown down and never rebuilt. It was afterward used in building the bridge at Sauk Rapids. The Company constructed a large saw mill, and a large two-and-a-half story cabinet shop. Mr. Fletcher built a commodious flouring mill, which was run by this power. In all, not less than seventy-five thousand dollars were expended in improving the water power, building dams, bridge, and mills at this place.

The dam was broken in 1859, and no one had courage to immediately rebuild it; and Mr. Fletcher removed his flouring mill to Sauk River.

The dam was repaired in the winter of 1859-60, but during the following summer, a sudden rise in the river destroyed dam, saw-mill, and cabinet shop, so that in a short time there was nothing to show for all the money and labor that had been expended at this place. The stock which had been in great demand, now depreciated rapidly, until in 1860, it was worthless, and the property of the company was insufficient to meet their liabilities.

The town of Little Falls was surveyed in 1855, by S. M. Putnam, but not incorporated. Immediately after the town was platted, a few lots were given away, after which, lots sold rapidly, some of those most favorably located bringing as high as a thousand dollars each, and land near town, for one hundred dollars per acre. But as 1860, with its mill failure came on, the increase and decrease in population, the rise and fall in real estate, nearly corresponded with the fluctuation in the price of the stock of the manufacturing company. The island known as Mill Island, at the time of constructing the dam, was cut across by a ditch, and the high water from time to time kept enlarging the opening, until the wide channel now existing was plowed out. Within the last few years real estate has steadily advanced, and at present both lots and land are commanding a fair price. The recent financial movement, the water-power changing hands, and the sale of a steam mill site and boom privileges, just above the water-power, gives to Little Falls the prospect for a bright and prosperous future, for which her citizens have waited long and patiently.

In 1857, three Indians, who were under arrest for the murder of a German peddler, on the road near Gull Lake, were taken from Sheriff Pugh, while enroute for St. Paul, and summarily disposed of by a party under the leadership of Anson Northrup and Benjamin Brown, both of whom were then living in this section. The party were overtaken near the present station of Royalton, and the Indians taken back to the southern border of the prairie south of Little Falls village, and, still chained together, hung to a pole supported by two trees. They had, on the way back, confessed their crime, and made no attempt at resistance. Considerable alarm was created among the settlements, in the fear of an uprising among the Indians; but no demonstration occurred, and the excitement soon died away.

The first saw-mill was built in 1849, at Little



Falls, by James Green, and afterward passed into the hands of the Little Falls Company, who enlarged it, and soon after, in 1858, it was washed away. Anson Northrup built a steam mill at Swan River in 1856, and run it for two years. William Sturgis built a mill at the mouth of Little Elk river in 1871, which was swept away by the flood of 1858. He immediately erected a new mill on the same site, which did good service for many years.

This county, in the first years of its settlement, became the rendezvous for a lawless gang of renegades, who, when the hard times rendered gambling unprofitable, resorted to theft and robbery, and at last, grown desperate by the failure of some cherished schemes, and repeated arrests and punishments, attempted the life of R. L. Barnum, the faithful old Justice whose Court they had learned to dread. On the night of October 1st, 1858, a part of the gang visited the old man's cabin, dragged him out, and after terrible maltreatment, left him for dead. He recovered, however, but this crowning outrage led to a general uprising among the law abiding citizens, resulting in the banishment from the community, of this obnoxious element. The details of the series of events alluded to are known among the old settlers as "The Little Falls War."

**GRASSHOPPERS.**—In the summer of 1856, about the latter part of July, the grasshoppers made a sudden descent upon this county, coming from a little north of west. Their ravages extended to nearly all parts of the county. Grain was ripening and nearly ready for the harvest, yet about two-thirds of the crop was destroyed. They deposited their eggs in great quantities that fall, from which, the following spring, an immense swarm appeared, devouring almost every green vegetable substance, but by the first of July were all gone. The people endured this scourge with comparatively little suffering, as there was teaming and other work in abundance at remunerative prices. Since the departure of the grasshoppers in 1857, they have not seriously troubled the county. About 1873, a few appeared in the western part, doing considerable damage to late crops and gardens, since which time the county has escaped any severe scourge of this character.

**RAILROADS.**—The history of railroads in Morrison county is not very extensive. On the 3d of March, 1857, Congress passed an act making a certain grant of land to aid in the construction of

several lines of railroads in the then Territory of Minnesota. One of these lines was to start at Stillwater and run via St. Paul and Crow Wing to the Red River of the North, passing through this county. It was surveyed by the Minnesota & Pacific Railroad Company, who first undertook to build this line, but failed. The first land grant gave six sections to the mile. In 1864, the grant was increased to ten sections to the mile, taking the odd numbered sections for ten miles on each side of the line, and reserving the odd sections in the next ten miles to make up the deficiency where the odd sections of the land on the first ten miles had previously been sold. By this condition nearly all the odd sections in Morrison county were held to fill the railroad grant.

After the Minnesota and Pacific railroad company had forfeited their rights to this grant, the Legislature of Minnesota, by an act approved on the 10th of March, 1862, turned this grant over to the St. Paul and Pacific company. This company completed the line of road from St. Paul to Sauk Rapids, where it stopped for several years. In 1871, the company commenced this line to Brainerd, to connect with the Northern Pacific, and continued the effort into 1872, when the grading was nearly completed and about three miles of track laid south from Brainerd. On the failure of Jay Cooke & Co., of New York, the work stopped, and never was resumed by the same company. After failing to fulfill a number of promises looking to a completion of the road, the State Legislature, by an act approved March 1st, 1877, declared the right of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company to build the line from Sauk Rapids to Brainerd forfeited, with all aid appointed for its construction. The same act specified the conditions on which any other company might build the road, and enjoy the emoluments arising from the land grant. One section of the act provided that persons who had settled upon any portion of the land of the grant, and resided upon the same at the time of the passage of the bill, should have the right to enter their claims under the homestead, or pre-emption laws. Under this provision, two hundred and twenty-five claims were filed at the Governor's office in St. Paul, one hundred and fifty-eight of which were allowed; and those who for any cause were not entitled to enter the lands they claimed, and had improved them, were allowed to purchase them of the Railroad Company at Government price. On





the 2d of May, 1877, the Western Railroad Company of Minnesota, informed the Governor of the State that they were ready to construct the road in accordance with the terms named in the act of March 1st, 1877, and on receiving his approval, commenced the work, and completed the road in the month of November of that year, establishing three stations in the county, one at Royalton, one at Little Falls, and one at Belle Prairie, since which time the road has been in active operation.

The Little Falls and Dakota railroad, a line leading from Little Falls westward by way of Sauk Centre, Glenwood, and Morrison, to Brown's Valley, on the western boundary of the State, was projected in 1872. The Legislature of Minnesota passed an act in the latter year authorizing the St. Paul and Pacific railroad company to construct this line of road as a branch line. They failed to build the road in the specified time, and no further action was taken until the fall of 1878, when a convention was called to meet at Sauk Centre on the 23d of January, 1879. On the day following, a company called the Little Falls and Dakota Railroad Company was organized, with J. G. Whittemore, of Glenwood, President; N. Richardson, of Little Falls, Vice President; E. P. Barnum, of Sauk Centre, Secretary; and J. M. Moore, of Morrison, Treasurer. By special legislation, all the towns and counties along the line, except Morrison county, submitted the proposition for aid in constructing the road at the fall election, in November, 1879, which election authorized the issuing of bonds. The amount asked was \$200,000. The amount to be raised by Morrison county was \$35,000. The following spring, Morrison county voted to issue bonds by a majority vote of seventy-five. A partial survey of the line was effected during the fall of 1879. The same company reorganized on the 17th of September, 1879, at which time Hon William Crooks, of St. Paul, was chosen President; Charles A. DeGraff, of Janesville, Vice President; E. P. Barnum, of Sauk Centre, Secretary; and L. E. Reed, of St. Paul, Treasurer. By the energy of the President, arrangements have been perfected with capitalists whereby the building of the road is assured. In accordance with the terms of the contract, work must be commenced prior to the 1st of July, 1880. In obedience to this requirement ground was broken on this road, at Little Falls, on the 25th of June, 1880.

## BELLE PRAIRIE.

### CHAPTER CXXXIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -- EARLY SETTLEMENT -- ORGANIZATION -- MANUFACTURING -- RELIGIOUS -- SCHOOLS -- BIOGRAPHICAL.

Belle Prairie lies in the northern portion of the county, and extends from the Mississippi river to Mille Laes county. It contains upwards of six congressional townships, or 152,320 acres, 2,102 of which are under cultivation.

A strip of prairie, varying from one and a half to two and a half miles in width, skirts the river, back of which, the surface is more rolling, and in places, quite broken. Progressing eastward, heavy timber appears, chiefly of the different varieties of hardwood, excepting in the northern and eastern part, where there is a considerable acreage of pine land.

The first white settler in this part of the county was Frederick Ayer, a native of Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In youth he had studied for the ministry, but owing to failing health, he became a missionary among the Indians of the Northwest. In the fall of 1848, he came to this locality in search of a location for an Indian school. He removed his family here the following spring, erected a building, and opened a school for the Winnebago children; remained until after the close of the civil war, when he went to Georgia as a teacher for the freedmen, where his useful life ended in 1867.

Harrison Fletcher made a claim on section six, township 41 north, range 31 west, but after several years, removed to Minneapolis where he now lives. He was accompanied by his brother, Benjamin, who made a claim near him, but is now dead. Asher Adams settled on section one in the same township in 1851, where he resided until his death in 1864. Dr. William Lewis also settled near the others in 1851, and made it his home for several years.

Prominent among the pioneers who soon followed were, O. A. Coe, F. J. Farrand, and T. Hamilton. Anton Bisson came in 1853, and was the first French Canadian to settle in the town. He was soon followed by a number of his countrymen, who form a majority of the present population.

A portion of the western part of this township



was included in the Fort Ripley Reservation until the spring of 1878, when it was thrown open to settlers.

Frank Howard obtained permission from the War Department to open a farm on section three, in 1858, and availed himself of the privilege the same year. This was but a short distance from the Fort, and he remained until 1862.

The first death in the township was a son of Frederick Ayer, named Frederick E., who died on the 6th of August, 1849.

The first marriage was Benjamin Fletcher and Miss Jane Forbes, in 1852 or '53.

Belle Prairie was organized by the County Commissioners on the 25th of March, 1859, and the following officers appointed: F. Ayer, Supervisor; S. T. Hamilton, Justice of the Peace; and E. Taylor, Clerk. The first election was held on the 5th of April following, and a full set of officers chosen, as follows: Supervisors, J. E. Amiot, Chairman, F. Ayer, and T. Bellefialle; Justices of the Peace, William Lewis and J. E. Amiot; Clerk, E. Taylor; Assessor, D. Mason; Collector, S. T. Hamilton; Constables, D. Mason and H. Houde; and Overseer of Roads, O. A. Coe.

Mr. Ayer was a regularly ordained Congregational Minister, and held services in his school house soon after its completion. About 1854, meetings were held in the same building by the Methodist denomination, who assisted in the management of the school for a time. Rev. E. Newton, Congregationalist, was located here in 1875, and succeeded by Rev. D. W. Rosenkranz. The congregation is now regularly visited by the Rev. Mr. Hull, of Little Falls.

The first Catholic services were held by Father Pierz, in the house of Anton Bisson, in the fall of 1853. Mass was conducted at this place until 1855, when a chapel was erected, and Father Buch placed in charge. In 1877, a more commodious edifice was commenced. It was finished and dedicated on the 10th of October, 1880. This is called the Church of the Holy Family, and is under the charge of Father Fortier.

A convent was built, adjoining the church, in 1872, and a Sister's school established. There is also a substantial frame parsonage on the grounds.

As before stated, Mr. Ayer opened a school here for the Indian children in 1849. The funds for the erection of buildings and support of the school, which employed a number of teachers, was collected by Mrs. Ayers for that purpose, in the New

England states. After the immigration of settlers began, quite a number of white children attended, but on the removal of the Indians and establishment of district schools, the enterprise was abandoned.

The first district was organized about 1856, and school held the same year by a Miss Cunningham in the old mission school building. A school house was built near this spot in 1865, and the present building erected ten years later. There are a number of schools now kept in the township during the regular terms.

GRAVELVILLE.—In 1876, Charles Gravel made a claim on the Platte river, in the southeastern portion of the town. There is a good mill site at this point, and Mr. Gravel and a brother at once commenced the erection of a flour and saw mill. The mills were completed, and soon after, D. O. Goulet became a partner. In 1878, F. X. Goulet purchased his brother's interest, and the following year, a general store was opened. This company has done a very successful business at this place and are now making valuable improvements.

A steam saw mill was also built near the mission school on the Mississippi river, by a company, in 1855. It afterwards became the property of F. Ayer, who sold it to Mr. Luther in 1860. It was taken down and removed some years afterwards.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

FREDERICK AYER, (deceased) at an early date, was sent by the American board of foreign missions, to Minnesota. His first mission was at Sandy Lake, where he spent the year of 1831. Then, returning to his former home at Mackinaw, he married, and in a short time, was sent to Yellow Lake, where he remained a year and went to Pokeguma Lake. In 1843, he moved to Red Lake, was there for seven years, and finally came to Belle Prairie. Here he started a mission school which he and his wife conducted till the Winnebagoes were removed. Mr. Ayer then engaged in farming until 1863, when he went to Atlanta, Georgia, as Financial Agent for the American Missionary Association, which position he held until his death, in 1866.

LYMAN W. AYER, a son of the subject of our last sketch, was born at the Pokeguma Mission, Minnesota, on the 10th of June, 1834, being the first white child born in this part of the State. After living with his parents till 1862, he enlisted in the Second Minnesota Light Artillery, and served till the close of the war. Then, for three





years, was engaged in teaching school, one year in Tennessee, and two at Atlanta, Georgia. Returning to this State, Mr. Ayer was employed in a store at Little Falls for a short time, and then came to Belle Prairie, settling on the old homestead, where he now lives.

MICHEL AROUX, one of the pioneers of this town, was born in Canada East on the 17th of April, 1833. When fifteen years of age, he visited New York and Vermont, returning to Canada in about a year. In 1854, he came to Belle Prairie, Minnesota, and purchased his farm, where, with the exception of three years when he was visiting, he has since lived. On the 15th of April, 1861, he was married to Margaret Ladoux. They have seven children.

ALBERT BARBEAU was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 14th of March, 1852. When an infant, he was taken by his brother-in-law, who came to Minnesota in 1865, and located at Belle Prairie. In 1876, Mr. Barbeau purchased the farm where he has since resided. He was married on the 9th of January, 1878, to Miss A. Chartist, who has borne him two children.

G. BISSON was born in Canada on the 23d of October, 1828. In 1859, he came to Ohio, and for three years, was employed in a brick-yard; then for about seven years, was engaged in Illinois and Iowa, furnishing wood for steamers on the Mississippi river. After coming to Minnesota, he resided in Anoka and Kandiyohi counties until 1879, when he came to Belle Prairie and settled on his present farm.

JOHN W. BALL was born in Onondaga county, New York, on the 1st of November, 1832. In 1854, he came to Wisconsin, and after two years, visited his native place, but soon returned again to Wisconsin. In 1859, Mr. Ball went to Pike's Peak, and spent the greater portion of the time for five years, in hunting in the mountains. Going from there to Montana, he carried on a stock and hay ranche for six years. Then, after spending a short time in Salt Lake, Mr. Ball returned to New York in 1870, and the same year, was married to Mrs. Kate Seibert. They came to Little Falls in 1880, and purchased their present farm.

ANTON BISSON was born in Wisconsin on the 2d of March, 1828. When he was a child, his parents moved to their former home in Canada, where Anton lived until sixteen years old, after which he was employed by the American Fur

Company, under the charge of his uncle, Clement Bolio. His business carried him throughout the Northwest, and from the head of the Mississippi river to St. Louis. For nine years, Mr. Bisson was engaged in this business, traveling from one trading post to another. In passing through Morrison county he was favorably impressed with the country, and in 1853, returned, purchased a farm, and has since made it his home. He was married to Miss Amelia Houde in 1854. They have had thirteen children, nine of whom are living.

FELIX BAISTEN was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, on the 15th of July, 1836. When seventeen years of age he came to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed for a few months in a saw mill. Removing to Little Falls, he was in the same occupation during summers, and in the woods in winter. In 1856, he came to Belle Prairie, where he has since remained, carrying on his farm. On the 27th of October, 1862, he was married to Miss Adeline Fournier. They have had nine children, and eight are living.

P. J. BERK was born in Europe on the 12th of June, 1845. Until 1870, he worked at farming in his native country, and then came to America. Mr. Berk came directly to Morrison county, taking a homestead in the town of Pierz, where he lived until 1875. He then purchased a farm in this township, on which he now resides. Mr. Berk also owns eight hundred and sixty acres in Little Falls, where he devotes a part of his time, and is making extensive improvements.

O. A. COE, a native of Geauga county, Ohio, was born on the 2d of March, 1818. When he was sixteen years of age, his mother died, and until 1839, he was employed on the neighboring farms. In the latter year, during the summer, he was engaged in farming in Illinois and Wisconsin. In the fall of the same year, Mr. Coe went to Taylor's Falls, going on the first steamer ever run on the St. Croix river. During the winter of 1839 and 1840, he was engaged in the lumber business, and the following summer, on the mission farm at Pokegama Lake. In 1841, he returned to Ohio, and three years later, came to Red Lake, Beltrami county, where he had charge of the Indian agency farm. In 1853, Mr. Coe came to his present farm, being one of the oldest settlers of the town. Miss Henrietta Galawa became his wife on the 17th of April, 1844, and they have seven children.

A. B. COE was born on the 26th of January, 1850, at Red Lake, Beltrami county. In 1853, he



came with his parents to Belle Prairie, and worked on the farm until sixteen years of age. He then went to Lake Superior, and was engaged in the lumber business. In 1870, he came to Morrison county, took a claim in the town of Pierz, but soon removed to Little Falls. In 1877, Mr. Coe came to his present farm. He was married to Miss Martha Wilcox on the 2d of July, 1870. They have three children.

MOSES E. COE was also born at Red Lake, Beltrami county, on the 28th of August, 1852. When he was an infant his parents moved to Belle Prairie, where he assisted his father on a farm until seventeen years of age, after which he devoted his time to hunting and lumbering. In 1877, he joined the Whitehead party, and visited the Black Hills, but soon returned as far as the Yellowstone, where he took a claim, from which he supplied the steamers on the river with wood. He made his home there for three years, and on his return formed a partnership with John Gorst, erecting a saw-mill in the southern part of Crow Wing county, which they operated until 1881. After disposing of the mill, Mr. Coe purchased a farm in this county, and was married on the 11th of January, 1881, to Miss Mary Gorst, of Boston.

ALECK CHARTIER was born in Canada, on the 7th of September, 1851. When he was three years old his parents moved to Illinois, and the following year came to Belle Prairie. In 1869, Mr. Chartier went to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in lumbering. Three year later, he returned to this place, and in 1875, purchased the farm where he has since lived. On the 22d of January, 1874, Miss Emily Barbeau became his wife.

ONESIMUS CHANDONNET was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, on the 18th of May, 1855. When sixteen years of age, he came to Michigan, working on the Saginaw river. Then, removing to Massachusetts, he was employed on the Hoosac Tunnel until 1878, when he came to this county, and has since resided on a farm. Mr. Chandonnet was married to Miss Julia Branchand on the 4th of July, 1879. They have one son.

JOHN CLARK was born in lower Canada, on the 21st of June, 1807. When he was about three years old, his parents removed to Oneida county, New York, and subsequently to Herkimer county. In 1829, Mr. Clark went to Clinton county, where he learned the carpenter's trade. In that county he filled many local offices, and had charge of the

Clinton Prison. In 1869, he came to Belle Prairie, and for ten years lived in the southern part of the township, then, came to the farm where he has since resided. On the 11th of January, 1870, Miss Mary Ann Davis became his wife.

JOSEPH DOUCET was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, on the 12th of July, 1835. He came to the United States in 1853, and was employed for a time in Detroit, Michigan, and in the woods near Lake Superior, after which he came to Crow Wing in a birch bark canoe, arriving there in 1856, and was afterwards engaged in the lumber business. Mr. Doucet then moved to Otter Lake and opened a hotel, which he carried on for a few years, and in 1862, came to Belle Prairie. After going from here to Crow Wing, Fort Garry, and Little Falls, he returned to this township, and has since made it his home. He married Miss Julia Aroux. They have had ten children, nine of whom are living.

JOHN DEMARS was born in Canada, on the 6th of April, 1850. He resided with his parents until nineteen years of age, then moved to New Jersey, and thence to Massachusetts, where he lived for five years. In about 1875, he went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he learned the carpenter trade. Then, after living in Winona and St. Paul, he was employed about fifteen months in the copper mines of Lake Superior. In 1876, Mr. Demars came to this township, worked at his trade for two years, and then purchase a farm, which has since been his home.

CYRIAC DU FORT was born in Montreal, Canada, on the 13th of September, 1815. He assisted his father in a meat market until sixteen years of age, then moved to Vermont, and the following year, to Michigan, where he was employed in the woods during the winters and on the lakes in summers. After living a few years in New York, he was engaged, for ten years, as fireman on the steamers of Lake Champlain. Then went to St. Johns, Canada, where he opened a meat market, which he carried on till 1855, and came to Belle Prairie, where he has since lived. Miss Mary Trablai became his wife on the 27th of February, 1843. They have had eight children, only one of whom is living.

REV. J. FORTIER was born in Quebec, Canada, on the 19th of July, 1854. He attended the Nicolet College, in Canada, and graduated at the age of eighteen years. Then took up a theological course, which he continued at the same place





for two years, and then went to the Grand Seminary of Three Rivers for one year. In 1875, he was ordained by Bishop La Fleche, and remained at the Seminary as an assistant, till 1879. In the latter year he came to Crookston, Minnesota, where he had charge of the missionary work from Crookston to St. Vincent. In 1880, he came to this township, where he has charge of the church of The Holy Family.

F. J. FARRAND was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, on the 3d of March, 1832. He learned the carpenter trade of his father, working at it near his home and in Hartford until 1855. In the latter year he came to Belle Prairie, worked at his trade for two years and returned to Vermont. In 1864, he came again to this place and purchased his present farm. The following spring he enlisted in Company A, of the First Minnesota Infantry, served till the close of the war and returned to his farm. Mr. Farrand was married to Miss Mary E. Hamilton on the 16th of October, 1856. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living.

NARCISSE GRAVEL, a native of Lower Canada, was born on the 1st of November, 1838. When young, he learned the carpenter's trade of his father, at which he worked until coming to Minnesota, in 1858. After his arrival in this State, he made his home at Crow Wing, but was employed at his trade by the Government, at Red Lake, White Earth, and other places in the northern part of the State. In 1870, he located in what is now known as Brainerd, building one of the first houses in that section. Six years later, he came to Belle Prairie and assisted his brother in the erection of the mills at Gravelville, and finally located on his present farm, which he had previously taken as a homestead. Mr. Gravel was married to Miss Exida Croninard on the 30th of January, 1862.

CHARLES GRAVEL, the original owner, and now one of the principal owners of the village of Gravelville, was born in the city of Montreal, Canada, on the 15th of December, 1846. He removed to Wisconsin in 1867, and the following spring, to Crow Wing village. A few months later he was employed by the Government at Leech Lake, remaining in that employ for two years. During the years of 1872 and 1873, he owned and operated the ferry at Crow Wing. Then, after being in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company a short time, he moved to Little Falls,

and was engaged in the mereantile business for two years. In 1876, Mr. Gravel, in partnership with Henry Rasico, took the contract for carrying the mail from St. Cloud to Brainerd, being in the business for two and a half years. In the same year (1876) he also commenced the erection of a saw and grist mill and store at Belle Prairie, to which, since 1878, he has devoted his entire attention. On the 25th of November, 1874, he was married to Miss L. Brown, who has borne him four children.

F. X. GOULET, a native of Quebec, Canada, was born on the 28th of November, 1844. Previous to coming to Michigan, he was engaged in the lumbering business in Canada. After living in Michigan a short time, he moved to Oconto county, Wisconsin, and was in the lumber business there. In 1867, he came to Little Falls, and three years later, formed a partnership with Mr. Lefond, and opened a meat market. In 1873, a branch shop was started at Brainerd, Mr. Goulet having charge of it. He was a member of the first City Council of Brainerd, and was elected County Auditor in 1873, which office he held for five years. In 1876, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives from this district. Two years later, he purchased his brother's interest in the mills and store at Belle Prairie station, and has since devoted his time to his largely increasing business. He was married to Miss Adelaide Duclos, on the 17th of February, 1871. They have had five children, two of whom are living.

WILLIAM HARRISON, a native of Lincolnshire, England, was born on the 17th of January, 1826. He was employed at farming until coming to America in 1851. After living in the vicinity of Janesville, Wisconsin, a few months, he moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1855, came to Little Falls, where, for several years, he was engaged in teaming from St. Paul. He purchased a farm in Belle Prairie, on which he lived until 1872, when he came to his present farm. For twenty successive years, Mr. Harrison was Assessor of this town, and was also County Commissioner for one term. He was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Halman, on the 31st of May, 1857. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living.

O. KING, a pioneer of this town, was born on the 17th of March, 1830, in Montreal, Canada. When about twenty-two years of age, he came to Chippewa county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in the lumber business. In 1854, he came



to this town, purchased a farm, and has since devoted his time to its cultivation. On the 18th of November, 1860, he was married to Miss P. Ladoux. They have had thirteen children, and ten are living.

GEORGE G. KIMBALL, was born in Hollis, York county, Maine, on the 22d of October, 1825. His father was engaged in the manufacture of lumber, and George assisted him until eighteen years of age. He then went to Saco, where he learned the trade of spinner, at which he worked until 1855. He came to Green Prairie, Morrison county, in June, of the latter year, being the second settler in the town. In October, 1861, he enlisted in the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving for three years. On receiving his discharge, he came to the town of Two Rivers, Morrison county, where he resided on a farm until 1879. He then came to this town and has since made it his home. He was married on the 27th of March, 1848, to Miss Rubie W. Hackett. They have had six children, five of whom are living.

JAMES F. KIMBALL was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, on the 8th of January, 1851. His father came to Morrison county in 1855, and the family the following year. When his father enlisted in the army, they lived in different parts of the county, and on his return settled in the town of Two Rivers. In 1872, James took a farm in the latter place, where he lived until coming to this town in 1879. Here he purchased the farm which has since been his home. On the 27th of October, 1874, he was married to Miss Sora Ann Rolf, and they have four children.

MICHEL LADOUX was born in Canada East, on the 22d of January, 1823. He was employed at farming in his native place, until 1846, when he moved to Illinois. In 1855, Mr. Ladoux came to Belle Prairie, was engaged in agricultural pursuits for about three years, and then purchased the farm where he has since lived.

JOSEPH LADOUX was born in Illinois on the 28th of February, 1839. He came with the family to Belle Prairie, and was employed on the neighboring farms and in the pineries. In 1872, he purchased his present farm, on which he has resided since 1877. Mr. Ladoux was married on the 5th of October, 1877, to Miss O. Doucet, who has borne him three children, two of whom are living.

JOHN B. LAFOND was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, on the 6th of February, 1848. When sixteen years of age, he went to

Michigan and was employed for a short time in the iron mines of Lake Superior. He then moved to Green Bay, Wisconsin, remained for a short time and came to Little Falls. Soon after, he purchased a farm in Belle Prairie, resided there for a time, and moved to Brainerd, where he was engaged in a meat market. In 1877, Mr. Lafond returned to Belle Prairie, purchased a farm, and has since carried it on, in connection with the lumber business, in which he has been extensively engaged during the winter months. Miss Elizabeth Grimier became his wife on the 15th of December, 1870. They have five children.

EDWARD W. MALBURN was born in Canada, on the 23d of December, 1830. When he was an infant his parents moved to New York, where he was engaged in various pursuits until 1868. In the latter year, he came to Belle Prairie, devoted most of his time to farming, and in 1877, moved to his present home.

DAVID MORIN was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, on the 22d of July, 1820. At the age of sixteen years, he commenced lumbering and making square timber on the Ottawa river. In 1842, came to Detroit, Michigan, where he was employed in a saw-mill for four years. Mr. Morin spent one winter in St. Louis, and then entered the employ of the American Fur Company, trading with the Indians in the Rocky Mountains. For three years he was in the lumber business on the Chippewa river, then moved to Belle Plaine in the Minnesota valley, and in 1857, purchased a farm in this town, which has since been his home.

CHARLES PELKEY, a native of Nicolet, Canada, was born in May, 1823. When fifteen years old, he came to the United States, locating in Westport, New York, and was employed on a farm for some ten or twelve years. Then, moving to Essex county he purchased a farm, resided there for several years and moved to Vermont. After returning to New York and remaining for some time, he came to Minnesota in 1866; lived in Little Falls one year, and then came to this town, which has since been his home.

SAMUEL TRIBBY was born in Delaware county, New York, on the 20th of April, 1850. At the age of eight years he came to Minnesota with his father, who soon returned to New York. Mr. Tribby entered the employ of a St. Paul grocery house, where he remained for three years. For the next six years he was engaged in lumbering, and also on the river steamboats. In 1869, he was





employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, remaining until 1872. Then, after visiting the east, he returned to this State and was engaged in the lumber business, putting in about five million feet of logs a year. In the spring of 1881, Mr. Tribby came to this township and opened a general merchandise store on section fourteen. On the 4th of September, 1873, Miss Catharine E. Ireland became his wife. They have had two children, but one of whom is living.

THOMAS M. WILCOX, a native of Essex county, New York, was born on the 7th of June, 1841. In 1861, he enlisted in the Ninety-first New York Volunteer Infantry, serving eighteen months, re-enlisted in the United States Regular Artillery and served three years. He then returned to his native State and lived until coming to Belle Prairie in 1868. Here he rented a farm for a few years, and in 1871, purchased his present home. In 1875, Mr. Wilcox visited Texas, resided there for two years, and returned to his farm in this place. Miss Lydia A. Segnor became his wife on the 31st of December, 1865. They have five children.

## BELLEVUE.

### CHAPTER CXL.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—VILLAGE OF ROYALTON—MANUFACTURING—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Bellevue lies in the southern part of the county, and is bounded on the west by the Mississippi river, and on the south by Benton county. It embraces an area of about 28,800 acres, of which about 2,000 are under cultivation.

The first settler in this town was John McGilles, a Scotchman, who made a claim in 1852; he soon sold out to John B. Dearing, and removed to Crow Wing. Duncan McDougal and Hugh Patterson made claims on sections twenty and twenty-one about the same time, but both have moved away. Rev. R. D. Kenney was for many years a missionary among the Indians, and settled on section thirty-five about 1853. He was a native of Vermont, but does not now live here. P. A. Green, a native of New York, came in the fall of 1854, and took a claim in section thirty-five, on part of which the present village of Royalton is located. Mr.

Green still owns the property but resides in Benton county. Among other early settlers were, Richard Lambert, Daniel Lambert, William Trask, Stephen Hill, Mathias Roof, Sylvester Hennenlotter, and Jasper H. Hill; a further notice of some of the above, appears hereafter. These pioneers all settled near the river, but in a few years the settlement extended towards the interior, and the township is now quite well settled.

This town was organized in the spring of 1858, and at that time consisted of a strip of territory six miles wide from north to south, and extending twenty-eight miles east, to the county line. A tract eighteen miles in length was detached in 1874, and formed into Buckman township, and in 1881, eighteen sections more were taken from the east side and added to the latter town, thus reducing Bellevue to its present limits. Among the first town officers were: R. Lambert, Chairman of Supervisors; D. McDougal, Clerk; William Trask, Treasurer; J. H. Hill, Constable; John McGilles, Justice of the Peace; and John Frye, Assessor. S. Hennenlotter was also one of the Supervisors.

VILLAGE OF ROYALTON.—In 1878, P. A. Green surveyed and platted a portion of his land on section thirty-five, and named it Royalton, but did not record the plat. In 1879, J. D. Logan purchased a portion of the southeast quarter of section thirty-five, and had it surveyed, platted, and recorded, the plat also bearing the name of Royalton. Subsequently, Mr. Green recorded his plat, but, although it is the original town, yet it occupies the position of an addition. The village is located on the Platte river, on the line of the Northern Pacific railroad, and near the south line of the county. It contains two general stores, two blacksmith shops, one saw mill, two churches, a warehouse, elevator, Post-office, etc.

The saw mill is run by steam, and is operated by J. D. Logan & Co. It was erected in 1879, and has a daily capacity of from twelve to fifteen thousand feet. It also contains one run of stone for grinding feed.

Religious meetings were held at the house of J. B. Dearing, by Stephen Hill, of the Methodist Church, as early as 1856. That denomination appointed Rev. Mr. Hoople as the first regular pastor, but the congregation has not been very regularly supplied.

There is a Presbyterian organization, which erected a church in the village of Royalton in 1880.



A Protestant Episcopal church was also built in 1880. It is visited once a month by Rev. Mr. Hawley, of St. Cloud.

The pioneer missionary, Father Pierz, held mass at the house of Sylvester Hennenlotter in the summer of 1855, but as there are but few Catholics in the town, no organization has been effected.

The first school in the township was held at the house of Jasper Hill, on section twenty-two, in 1857. Mrs. Hill was the teacher. A small frame school house was built the following year on section twenty-one, and in 1870, the present building erected on section twenty-seven. There are two organized districts in the township, the other not having yet erected a schoolhouse.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES BORDEN was born in 1833, in Upper Canada. When young, he learned the carpenter's trade, and worked at it in his native place till coming to Minnesota, in 1854. He resided in St. Paul and Stillwater one year, and in 1855, came to this county and made Bellevue his principal home, but was employed at his trade in different parts of the State. Mr. Borden returned to Canada in 1857, and was engaged in shoemaking and farming until 1877, when he returned to Minnesota and two years later, purchased his present farm which has since been his home. On the 23d of August, 1863, he was married to Miss Mary J. Hall. They have had eight children, and seven are living.

JAMES CHAPMAN is a native of the county of Surrey, England, and was born in March, 1815. He resided at home until coming to America in 1855; spent one season in Iowa, and in 1856, came to Bellevue township and purchased his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Chapman has held the office of Justice of the Peace for several years, and Town Supervisor, also takes a prominent part in all public enterprises.

EUGENE A. BOWERS, a native of Virginia, was born on the 15th of November, 1856. He lived on the farm until thirteen years of age, then attended school at Moorefield, West Virginia, till 1872, when he was for a year at the Kansas State Agricultural College, at Manhattan, and the following year attended school in Missouri. For six months, he was in the Gem City Business College, at Quincy, Illinois, and in 1875, with his brother, commenced dealing in live stock in Missouri. The following year he returned to the Gem City Busi-

ness College, and graduated. After having made a visit to the East, he came to Morrison county in 1879, and has since devoted his time to farming and stock-raising.

ROBERT BROWN, proprietor of the Royalton Hotel, was born in Shelby county, Missouri, on the 8th of September, 1839. Resided at home until 1861, when he enlisted in Company R, of the Second Missouri Infantry, Confederate Army, serving till the close of the war. He then returned to Shelby county, and was engaged in teaching school winters and on the farm during the summer. On the 23d of April, 1873, he was married to Miss Rebecca M. Bowers. In 1877, they came to Morrison county, where Mr. Brown taught school at different places until 1879, then came to Bellevue township and immediately commenced erecting his present hotel. Mr. Brown is the present Town Clerk.

IRA W. BOUCK is a native of Independence, Iowa, and was born on the 22d of February, 1855. He resided at home until seventeen years of age, then attended the Iowa State Agricultural College; graduated in 1876, and was made Principal of the High-school of Dunlap, Iowa, filling the latter position until 1880. He came to this place in October, and opened a general store, which he has since carried on. Was married on the 25th of December, 1879, to Miss Mary Lonsdale.

CHARLES A. GREEN, one of the pioneer settlers of Minnesota, is a native of Green county, New York, born on the 4th of October, 1844. He came with his parents to this State when only ten years of age. They first located in the town of Bellevue, where our subject assisted his father in the cultivation of the farm till 1863, when he visited the East and the family removed to Langola, Benton county. On his return, Mr. Green resided with his parents till 1879, when he came to the old homestead in this place, on section thirty-five. He also owns and carries on a farm east of Royalton, which village his father laid out some years since.

JASPAR H. HILL, one of the early settlers of this town, was born in New Brunswick, on the 23d of December, 1825. His parents moved to the state of Maine, in 1839, where our subject was engaged in farming and lumbering until 1856. Since then, he has been a resident of this place, spending the winters, however, in the pines. Mr. Hill has filled the office of Town Treasurer for the last twenty-one years. He was united in marriage with Miss Mahala I. Hamilton, on the 1st of Oc-





tober, 1848. They have had nine children, eight of whom are living.

SYLVESTER HENENLOTTER, the oldest living settler of this town, was born in Prussia, on the 6th of April, 1819. He attended school until fourteen years old, then commenced peddling, traveling over a large portion of Europe. In 1848, he came to America, and was engaged in the manufacture of lumber in the state of New York until 1855. Then came to Minnesota and located on his present farm. Since his residence here, Mr. Henenlotter has held the office of County Commissioner three years, Supervisor ten years, and is at present Chairman of the latter board. On the 7th of June, 1855, Walburga Roff became his wife. They have had five children, four of whom are living.

HENRY S. HILL, son of Stephen Hill, one of the first settlers of Bellevue, was born in New Brunswick on the 30th of November, 1838. His parents came to Minnesota in 1856, locating in Bellevue, where our subject resided, being engaged in the lumber business in connection with farming until 1873. He then removed to Little Falls, purchased a mill in company with his brother, Elvin G., who afterwards disposed of his interest, and M. Hill now owns it alone. He came to the old homestead in this place in the fall of 1881.

MARK KOBE is a native of Austria, and was born on the 6th of May, 1848. He came to America in 1869, and was employed on farms in New York State and other places until coming to Minnesota in 1871. He located in Stearns county, and was employed in stores in Richmond, Cold Spring City, and Melrose. In the latter place he opened a store of his own and a branch store in Benton county, both of which he carried on till 1880, then sold, and opened a general merchandise store in Royalton. Mr. Kobe is now erecting a large elevator at this place. He was married on the 28th of August, 1874, to Miss Mary Terevy. Five children have been born to them.

J. D. LOGAN was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, on the 2d of August, 1838. In 1855, he came to what is now known as Northfield, Minnesota; remained six years, and on the 18th of April, 1861, enlisted in Company G, of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. He then went to Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and operated a saw and planing mill until the fall of 1878, when it was destroyed by fire. The following spring he came to Bellevue township and erected the saw and shingle mill,

which he still operates. Mr. Logan laid out the town site of Royalton, which he now owns. Miss Mary J. Walker became his wife on the 2d of August, 1864. They have had four children, three of whom are living.

RICHARD L. LAMBERT is a native of Aroostook county, Maine, born on the 26th of April, 1846. His parents came to this place when he was but nine years of age; he made his home with them till about 1870, when he purchased the farm and now operates it. Mr. Lambert divides his time between farming and working in the pinceries. Was married on the 3d of June, 1869, to Miss Helen King, who has borne him one child, Ada E.

JAMES LAMBERT, one of the pioneers of this town, was born in Kennebec county, Maine, on the 17th of January, 1810. He made his home with his parents till twenty-one years old, after which time he spent the winters in the pinceries, springs on the drive, and summers on a farm. Came to Minnesota and located his present farm in 1855. His house is situated on the old Fort Ripley stage road and affords a very convenient stopping place for travelers, who always try to reach "Lambert's" about night. He was married to Ruth A. Peters, of New Brunswick, on the 23d of October, 1833. Of thirteen children, eleven are living.

ISAAC P. LAMBERT, a son of the subject of our last sketch, was born in Maine, on the 15th of July, 1848. Came with his father to Minnesota in 1855, and when old enough, commenced working in the woods in winter and on the drive each following spring. In 1872, he engaged in farming for himself, and two years later, located on a farm in section seventeen; the following fall, he moved to section twenty-one, and is now carrying on both farms. On the 21st of May, 1872, he was united in marriage with Mary Stewart. They have four children.

STEPHEN H. MUNCY is a native of Maine, born on the 3d of May, 1842. He resided with his parents until of age, then commenced farming for himself and in 1865, came to Minnesota. Has since been a resident of Morrison county, engaged in lumbering and farming, coming to his present farm in 1876. Mr. Muncy was united in marriage with Hannah Hill on the 17th of October, 1868. They have had four children; three of whom are living.



## BUCKMAN.

### CHAPTER CXLI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—FIRST THINGS—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies on the south line of the county, and has an area of about 34,000 acres, of which nearly 1,400 are under cultivation. The surface is undulating, and the greater portion is prairie interspersed with oak groves and patches of brush. There is some light timber in the eastern part. The soil varies from a light sandy to a dark loam, with a gravelly subsoil.

The first settler in the present town of Buckman was Joseph Mishkee, a Polander, who settled on section four in 1871, and still lives there. William H. Young, a native of Maine, settled on section twenty-two the same fall, but went to Missouri in 1877. John L. Finch, a native of New York State, also settled on section twenty-two about the same time, and is now a resident of the town. J. C. Johnson and J. H. Docken, natives of Norway, came in 1872, and were soon followed by, Albert Morae, C. B. Buckman, Michael Sand, A. B. Skinner, and Edmund Geer.

Buckman was organized in 1874, and named in honor of C. B. Buckman, one of the early settlers of the town, and now a resident of Little Falls. When it was organized, three congressional townships were included within its boundaries, but in 1881, it was reduced to its present limits, being nine miles long, from east to west, and six miles from north to south.

The first election was held in August, and the following officers chosen: Supervisors, C. B. Buckman, Chairman, A. Skinner, and William H. Young; Clerk, J. C. Johnson; Treasurer, J. H. Docken; Assessor, William H. Young; Justices of the Peace, G. W. Harvey and E. J. Verback; and Constables, G. F. Geer and Henry Love.

The first child born was probably Charles H. Johnson, son of J. C. Johnson, born on the 28th, of November, 1872.

The first death was John Ebert, son of Barney Ebert, in August, 1874.

The first marriage was that of Michael Sand and Louisa Ranch, on the 28th of October, 1876.

The first school taught in the town was by Mrs. Randall in 1874. There are now two schools in

regularly organized districts, and the usual terms are being held.

The Catholics of the township commenced the erection of a church in 1880, and completed it the following year. It is a mission church, and supplied by the priest from Rich Prairie.

There is a Post-office, named Buckman, located on section twenty. It was established in 1879, and Ed. Arnold appointed Postmaster.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM DALLMEIER, a native of Prussia, was born on the 3d of February, 1844. Came to America and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he remained, residing with his parents, till 1875. Then came to this place, and took a homestead, on which he now lives. Married Minnie Pothoff on the 10th of October, 1871. They have three children.

G. T. GEER was born in Clinton county, New York, on the 13th of July, 1846. When a child, his parents moved to Canada, but William returned to the United States at the age of seventeen years. He was engaged in the manufacture of wagons in Massachusetts till 1867. Then came to Minnesota and located in St. Cloud, where he was engaged at various occupations. Since 1875, he has been a resident of this place, living on a farm. The maiden name of his wife was Lusettie J. Monk, who is the mother of four children. Our subject's father, Edmund Geer, was born in Lower Canada on the 27th of March, 1822, and since 1878, has resided with his son in Buckman township.

HARRY HEATON is a native of Vermont, born on the 10th of June, 1848. He came with his parents to Lynden, Stearns county, in 1856, and assisted on the farm till about twenty-two years of age. Then was employed in the pineries and on the river, and in 1876, commenced teaming from Bismarek to the Black Hills. He came to his present farm in 1878, and has since given it his whole attention. On the 5th of November, 1879, he was married to Mary E. Geer. They have one child, named Arthur.

J. C. JOHNSON, one of the pioneers of the town, was born in Norway, on the 19th of December, 1842. When thirteen years old he landed on American soil and settled with his parents in Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1861, he left home and was employed on a farm and attending school in Rock county for some time. In 1862, he enlisted





in Company E, of the Thirty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. In 1865, he located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and followed agricultural pursuits for a time, but subsequently was employed as clerk in the city of Red Wing. In 1871, he went to Lyons county, and the following year, selected the farm on which he now lives. He was elected Clerk at the first election held in the town, and discharged the duties of the office until 1879. Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Sophia M. Doeken, on the 30th of January, 1867. They have been blessed with six children.

AUGUST L. KIENOW was born in Prussia on the 5th of July, 1838. He came to America in 1853, and settled in Wisconsin, engaging at blacksmith work, a trade which he had partially acquired in the old country. In 1862, he entered the employ of the Government as army blacksmith, and was with the army in the South until the close of the war. Returning to Wisconsin, he pursued his trade until 1866, when he came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Alberta township, Benton county. In 1876, he settled on his present farm, which contains three hundred and twenty acres, a considerable portion of which is under cultivation. Mr. Kienow was married on the 26th of February, 1867, to Miss D. Baumgarten. They have six children.

JULIUS KIENOW is also a native of Prussia, and was born on the 26th of April, 1846. When a child, he came with his parents to America; they settling in Wisconsin, where Julius was reared on his father's farm until coming to Minnesota, in 1867. He settled in Benton county the following year, and was engaged in lumbering and farming until coming to his present farm, in 1877. Mr. Kienow is one of the representative men of the town, having held the office of Town Clerk and Supervisor, and is now Chairman of the latter Board. He was married on the 15th of June, 1881, to Miss Mary Gazette, daughter of one of the pioneers of Alberta township, Benton county.

ANDREW MCCUTCHEN dates his birth in New Brunswick on the 12th of June, 1836. He was reared on a farm, and engaged in lumbering until coming to Minnesota in 1871. After remaining about a year in Minneapolis, he came to Sauk Rapids, and in 1874, selected the farm on which he now lives. Mr. McCutchen was united in marriage with Miss Helen S. Nelson, on the 26th of August, 1861. Of five children born to them, four are living.

JAMES H. MORTON was born in Franklin county, Maine, on the 13th of January, 1836. He remained at home until 1861, when he enlisted for three months in the First Maine Volunteer Infantry, and after being discharged, re-enlisted in Company A, of the Eighth Infantry, serving four years and five months, participating in one hundred and ten battles and skirmishes. Returning to his native State, he carried on his father's farm for four years, and the next three years were spent in Aroostook county, after which, in 1873, he came to Minnesota. His first place of residence was in Pierz township, Morrison county, but in 1874, he came to the farm on which he has since lived. Miss Sarah A. Crocker became his wife on the 9th of October, 1867. They have five children.

MICHAEL SAND, one of the pioneers of this township, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, on the 1st of June, 1852. When a child he came with his parents to America, they settling in Jackson county, Iowa, but removed to Le Sauk, Stearns county, three years later. In 1872, he came to this township and selected a farm on section six, but subsequently removed to section seventeen, where he now lives. He was married on the 28th of October, 1876, to Louisa Ranch. They have three children.

ABNER B. SKINNER was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, on the 29th of January, 1843. He came to Illinois with the family when ten years of age, and subsequently to Wisconsin, where he was employed on his father's farm until 1863. He then enlisted in Company H, of the Thirty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and others. He was wounded on the 18th of June, 1864, but the injury was not of a serious nature, and he served till the close of the war. In 1871, he came to Minnesota, and after remaining in Benton county for some time, located on his present farm in the spring of 1873. Mr. Skinner was a member of the first board of Supervisors, and held several other town offices. He was married on the 7th of April, 1868, to Miss Annette Joslin. They have five children.



## CULDRUM.

## CHAPTER CXLII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -- EARLY SETTLEMENT --  
ORGANIZATION-- SCHOOLS BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township lies in the southwestern portion of the county, and embraces an area of about 46,000 acres, 483 being under cultivation. Swan river runs through this town from west to east, and is joined in its passage by a number of creeks. There is a large acreage of timber land, and numerous tamarack swamps, with occasionally a small patch of brush prairie.

The first settler was J. C. Stebbins, who settled on what is now known as the "Martin place," in 1859. About 1862, he abandoned the farm and went to Iowa, and thence to West Union, Todd county, and later, to Sauk Centre, Stearns county. The next settler was John Shanks, who first opened the farm now occupied by John Workman, in 1860. The town was entirely deserted during the war, and after that period the first settler was William Rhoda, who settled on his present farm in June, 1866. He was followed during the same year by Daniel H. Campbell and others. John Workman and Wallace Bain were also early settlers after the war.

Culdrum was a part of Little Falls township until 1870, when a separate organization was effected. The first election was held on the 2d of June, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, Daniel Campbell, Chairman, W. W. Bain, and William Krueger; Clerk, W. W. Bain; Treasurer, John Workman; Assessor, William Rhoda; and Justice of the Peace, W. W. Bain.

The first school was taught by Mrs. Edna A. Barnard in 1868, in a little log school house. Mrs. Barnard is now a resident of Todd county.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM WALLACE BAIN was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 15th of March, 1825. His father came to America in 1833, and the family two years later. They located in Addison county, Vermont, where William received a good common school education. In 1850, he moved to Wisconsin, located on a farm, where he resided five years, and removed to Minnesota, being engaged in a hotel at Reed's Landing, and later, as a gardener in Wabasha. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Company I, of the Third Minnesota

Volunteer infantry, served one year, and was mustered out at Jacksonport, Arkansas. In 1868, Mr. Bain came to his present farm, which is located on section thirty-two, Culdrum township. He was elected first Justice of the Peace and Town Clerk. Miss Jane Woodend, who is a native of Ireland, became his wife in the year 1847. They have a family of five boys and three girls.

NAZAIR BLAIS was born in Canada East about the year 1836. He resided on a farm and was engaged in the pineries until coming to the United States. In 1865, he came to Minnesota, and was employed for a time by the Government, at Brainerd and Leech Lake, and came to his present farm in 1866. His farm of one hundred and sixty acres is located on section eighteen, South Culdrum; he also has eighty acres in Todd county. In 1866, Mr. Blais was united in marriage with Miss Margaret St. Peter, a native of Canada. They have had eight children, seven of whom, five boys and two girls, are living.

FRED HENRY BILLINGS, a native of LaFayette county, Wisconsin, was born on the 8th of August, 1847. He lived with his parents until five years of age, after which he resided with his grandparents, in New York, until fifteen years old, receiving there his education. On the 14th of March, 1864, he enlisted at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in Company D, of the Seventh Kansas Cavalry. Was mustered out on the 5th of October, 1865, returned to Wisconsin, and soon after located on a farm in Iowa, where he remained till coming to Minnesota in 1874. For four years he carried on a farm in Hennepin county, near Crystal Lake, then came to his present farm in section twenty-two, north Culdrum. Since his residence here, Mr. Billings has held the office of Assessor of the town, one term. Was married to Miss Melvina Tinkham, a native of Wisconsin, in 1867. Of five children born to them, three are living, two boys and one girl.

DANIEL H. CAMPBELL is a native of Antrim county, Ireland, born on the 12th of February, 1835. After the age of nine years, he was dependent upon his own resources, and in 1854, came to America. Was for a time engaged in farming in the state of Ohio, and for three years, employed by the Little Miami Powder Company. During Morgan's raid, he served in the State Militia for a short time. Then in the spring of 1866, came to Little Falls, Minnesota, and the following fall, to his present farm. Mr. Campbell has three hun-





dred and twenty acres of land, fifty of which is meadow, and thirty are under cultivation. He has held the office of Chairman of Supervisors for several terms since his residence here. Miss Margaret Maxwell became his wife in 1858. They have had eleven children, seven of whom are living, three girls and four boys.

MARTIN KINNEY was born in Ireland on the 6th of November, 1815. He remained on a farm and received his education in his native place until 1834. Then, coming to America, he located on a farm in New York, remaining for fourteen years, after which he lived on a farm in Wisconsin, till coming to his present land in 1871. Since his residence in this town, Mr. Kinney has been Chairman of Supervisors for six years, and Justice of the Peace three years. In 1836, Miss Elizabeth Cox, of Ireland, became his wife. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living, three girls and four boys. His four sons, John, Martin, Robert, and Bernard, all served in the war, and are now living in this town.

JOHN KINNEY is a native of Ireland, born on the 15th of September, 1839. When ten years of age, he came to America with his uncle, and a year later, joined his father in Wisconsin. He was employed on the lakes till the 18th of May, 1861, when he enlisted in Company I, of the Fourth United States Regulars. He was in the following engagements: Cross Lanes, Spring Hill, Pilot Knob, Pittsburg Landing, Stone Ridge, Chickamauga, and Nashville. In May, 1866, he was mustered out at Fort McHenry, Baltimore; came directly to Chicago and was employed on the lakes for some time. Then, for six or seven years, he resided on a farm in Wisconsin, and in 1875, came to Todd county, Minnesota. Two years later, he went to the Black Hills and was engaged in the mines a short time. In 1878, Mr. Kinney located on his present farm in Culdrum township. Miss Alice McLaughlin, a native of New York City, became his wife in 1868.

FREDERICK MUSKEY is a native of Germany, born on the 14th of August, 1851. He received a common school education in his native village, and also learned the blacksmith trade. Came to America in 1867, locating first in Wisconsin, where he was engaged in various pursuits, and in 1869, came to Minnesota. He resides on his father's homestead, which is situated on section three, south Culdrum, and contains three hundred and twenty acres, one hundred of which are under

cultivation. Since his residence here, Mr. Muskey has held the office of Supervisor three terms, and other local offices. Was married to Miss Minnie Town, of Germany, in September, 1880. Their union has been blessed with one son.

WILLIAM RHODA was born near the city of Berlin, Germany, on the 17th of August, 1830. He received a common school education and also took a course in the Academy of his native place. In 1856, his father came to America, and the family, the following year. Resided with his parents in Carver county, Minnesota, until March, 1862, when he enlisted at Fort Snelling, in Company D, of the Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Was in some active service on the frontier, and in December, sent South, where he engaged in the battles of Richmond and Nashville, and the siege of Vicksburg. In March, 1865, he was mustered out and returned to his former home in Carver county. In June of the following year, he located his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres; has since held the offices of Justice of the Peace and Assessor at different times, and since 1872, has been Town Clerk. Mr. Rhoda was married to Miss Paulina Newman, of Germany, in 1860. They have had five children, four of whom, two boys and two girls, are living.

JOHN WENDT was born in Germany, on the 3d of October, 1833. He received his education in his native country. Came to America, arriving in New Orleans in 1859, and was there employed as street-car driver until he enlisted in the Thirty-first Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, on the 12th of May, 1862. During his service he was in the siege of Fort Hudson, in June, 1863, and also in the battles of Mansfield Hill and Fort Blakely. On the 12th of May, 1865, he was mustered out at Mobile, Alabama, having served just three years. Returning to New Orleans he again drove street cars, and in the spring of 1868, came to Minnesota. In 1874, he located on section thirty-four, south Culdrum, and has since made it his home. Has a farm of two hundred acres, one-half of which is under cultivation. For three years Mr. Wendt was Chairman of Supervisors. In April, 1868, he was married to Miss Antonia Decker, of Baden, Germany. They have one adopted son, Anton Decker, a nephew of his wife.



## ELMDALE.

## CHAPTER CXLIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION · EARLY SETTLEMENT ·  
RELIGIOUS · SCHOOLS · ORGANIZATION — BIO-  
GRAPHICAL.

Elmdale is the most southwestern town in Morrison county, and has an area of about 40,000 acres. The surface is generally covered with timber, with an occasional patch of brush prairie, and the soil is a rich dark loam. Two River meanders through this town on its way to join the Father of Waters, and furnishes some good hay meadows.

There were probably a few settlers in the southern part of this town before the war, but no reliable information regarding them can be obtained. The oldest living settler is William Boyle, who made a claim on section eight in 1865; he subsequently removed to section seventeen, where he now lives. Mr. P. Hansen came the same year and settled in section eight where he still resides.

Andrew Ferrell settled in section twenty-four in 1870, and still lives there, and the following year John Buckley and J. J. Jacobson also arrived.

This town formed a part of Two Rivers until 1881, when a separate organization was effected and the first election held on the 11th of April, at which the following officers were chosen: Supervisors, Joseph Thomas, Chairman, Benedict Thomson, and Andrew Ferrell; Clerk, J. J. Jacobson; Treasurer, J. H. Mitchell; Assessor, M. P. Hansen; and Justices of the Peace, E. F. Thornberry, and J. N. Ferrell.

There is a Lutheran Church in the town, erected in 1875. The first services were held by Father Paulson, and the congregation now numbers about fifty families.

The first school was held by Miss Amanda Roach, now Mrs. Henry Coe, of Swan River, in 1869. Two schools are now taught in the town during the regular terms.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM BOYLE is a native of Belfast, Ireland, and was born on the 3d of October, 1841. He remained on the farm with his parents, until fourteen years of age, and soon after, came to America. Was engaged in the butcher business in New York until the war broke out, when he enlisted at Fort Clark, Texas, in Company D, of the Third Regular Infantry, under Captain Jackson. Was in the

first and second battles of Bull Run, was also at Gaines' Hill, Malvern Hill, Antietam Creek, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and with the army of the Potomac from the 26th of February, 1865, till the 4th of July of the same year. In September, 1865, he was discharged, and returned to New York, but soon after came to Minnesota and located on a farm in section eight, Elmdale. Mr. Boyle was united in marriage with Miss Bethia Bacon, of Canada. They have a family of three daughters.

ANDREW FERRELL was born in Russell county, Virginia, in about the year 1829. Remained in in his native county until sixteen years old, and one year later, went to Virginia, attended school one term, after which he was engaged in farming in Kentucky and Ohio. He enlisted in the army, for one hundred days, during Morgan's raid, and in October, 1870, came to Elmdale township, Minnesota, where he has since resided. He had originally a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, but has given half to one of his sons. In February, 1847, he was married to Miss Melissa Danrel, of Kentucky. Of eleven children born to them, seven are living; two girls and five boys. His son, J. N. Ferrell, is at present Justice of the Peace of this town. H. G. Ferrell has a wife and five children, and resides on eighty acres of the old homestead. John W. Ferrell is married, has six children, and lives on an adjoining farm.

KNUD HANS GUNDERSON was born in Denmark, on the 9th of February, 1841. He received a common school education in his native place, and at the age of fifteen was dependent upon his own resources. He came to America and located in Minnesota in 1867. He settled at St. Cloud, and engaged in various occupations before coming to this place in 1871. Here he purchased a farm on section eight and has since made it his home. In 1878, he erected a general merchandise store on his farm, it being the only store in this place. In 1879, he was married to Mrs. Caroline Christianson, of Denmark. She had six children by her first husband, only two of whom are living.

EDWARD FRANKLIN THORNBERRY, a native of Fairfield county, Ohio, was born on the 23d of March, 1842. He received a common school education and remained at home until nineteen years of age. On the 15th of August, 1861, he enlisted at Lancaster, in Company A, of the First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, and participated in the following engagements: battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro', Chicka-





mauga, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, and on the 9th of August, 1864, he was wounded at the battle of Big Shanty, on the Chickamauga river, and disabled until April, 1865. He then re-enlisted as a veteran, in the Forty-third Ohio Regiment, and served seven months in the engineer corps. Was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, in August, 1865, and returned to his former home in Ohio. Then for three years he was engaged on a farm in Indiana, and in the fall of 1870, came to Minnesota, and located on his present farm. He has been Justice of the Peace for three years, having been elected at the first election held in the town. On the 28th of November, 1865, he was married to Miss Catharine Petch, of Lancaster, Ohio. They have had seven children, six of whom are living, three boys and three girls.

## GREEN PRAIRIE.

### CHAPTER CXLIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—FORT RIPLEY—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town lies in the northwestern portion of the county, and embraces three full, and two fractional townships. The surface is gently undulating, except in the northern part near the Mississippi river which forms the eastern boundary, where a number of high bluffs appear. South of these, there is a long narrow strip of prairie, on the northern part of which Charles H. Green settled in 1855, and it is still called Green's Prairie. There is a considerable acreage of wild meadow and swamp in various portions of the township. The soil on the prairie is a sandy loam, and elsewhere a clay loam with a clay subsoil.

The town of Green Prairie was named in honor of its first settler, Charles H. Green, a native of Glen's Falls, New York, who came here from Massachusetts in 1855, and settled on a farm now owned by Richard Neill, on section five. At the breaking out of the civil war, Mr. Green enlisted in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and when the regiment surrendered at Murfreesboro', fought on after the colors were struck, killing several rebels, when he fell, pierced by sixteen bullets and a bayonet thrust. A cowardly soldier then

dispatched him with the butt of his musket, for which act he was sharply reproved by his commanding officer, who said, "So brave a man as that should be protected."

In June, 1855, the second settler, George G. Kimball, a native of Hollis, Maine, settled near Mr. Green. He also enlisted, in October, 1861, and never returned to his claim; he is now a resident of Belle Prairie township.

William Racicot settled on section thirty-two on the 9th of May, 1857. He went to the war in 1862, but returned to his old homestead in the fall of 1865, and now lives there, the oldest living settler in the town.

There were several other settlers, but all left during the war, and their successors found their old cabins a convenient shelter for the first few years. It was not until 1865, that the era of civilization again dawned on this township. Oliver Dwight made a claim in April of that year, but removed to Texas about eight years ago. During the latter part of the same month, Martin Hall and sons became residents, nearly all of whom now live in the town. Richard Neill also came about that time, located on the claim made by Mr. Green ten years before, and was followed, soon after, by John Denny, who still resides in the township. This settlement was confined to the narrow belt of prairie along the river. It was not until a few years ago that any attempt at settlement was made in the western part of the township, Ephraim Bates being the first claimant there in 1876. He settled on section ten, township 130 north, range 30 west, and still resides there. A few others have selected homes in the same locality.

The first school in the town was taught by Miss Mary Denny in the summer of 1867. It was in a rude frame house, built by subscription, on section seventeen. It served the purpose, however, until the erection of the present neat building in 1880.

Green Prairie was organized in the spring of 1868, and embraced all of Morrison county lying west of the Mississippi river and north of township 129. It had formerly been a part of Belle Prairie township. In 1879, all that part lying north of township 131 was organized as Motley township, and in the spring of 1880, it was reduced to its present limits by the organization of Parker.

Religious services were first held here about twelve years ago by the Rev. William Cutler, a Congregational minister.

Several years later, Rev. Mr. Miller organized a



Baptist Church, and meetings were held in the school house for a time, but Mr. Miller died about seven years ago, and the services have not since been renewed.

A Free Methodist society has been in existence about five years.

Green Prairie Post-office was established about 1869, with Martin Hall as Postmaster. Mail was obtained weekly from Fort Ripley, but since the abandonment of that post, it is supplied from Little Falls semi-weekly.

FORT RIPLEY.—The name of this fort was originally Fort Gaines, and is located on the Mississippi river, in the northeast portion of this township. The reservation, on the west side of the river, embraces nearly 1,500 acres, and has over two miles of river front. It was established in 1849, and used as a military post by the United States Government until July, 1878. Just above the fort proper, a ferry was established by the Government with eight hundred feet of cable, at a cost of \$2,500. When the Fort was abandoned, this was sold to D. S. Mooers, and is now being operated by him. The original barracks were built of logs and are still in existence, though in a partially dilapidated condition.

The later buildings, in use until its abandonment, are: three double sets of officers' quarters, one large hospital, erected at a cost of \$4,500, barracks to accommodate two full companies, a bakery, powder magazine, three block-houses with the necessary port-holes for cannon and musketry, bath-house, carpenter and blacksmith shops, guard-house, warehouse, two sets of laundress' quarters, wagon shed and stables for thirty mules, twelve horses, four oxen, and officers' horses. Several buildings were destroyed by fire five years ago.

Another fire occurred with fatal results on the 17th of June, 1868. The quarters occupied by Ordnance Sergeant Charles Frantzke were burned, and Sergeant Frantzke with his four children perished in the flames. His wife escaped only to live a hopeless lunatic.

A cemetery was laid out at an early date, and enclosed with a high picket fence. The first interment was the body of Private Burns, of Company A, of the Sixth United States Infantry, on the 6th of December, 1850, aged fifty-two years. There have been fifty-two interments, including members of soldier's families. The remains are about to be removed to the National Cemetery at

Rock Island, Illinois, with those of other abandoned military posts.

When the post was abandoned Ex-Sergeant Davis was given charge of the place, to prevent pillage or other destruction of property, and still remains in that capacity.

In accordance with a special act of Congress, a board of Appraisers met here in October, 1880, with a view to the ultimate disposal of the buildings, but the act requires at least two-thirds of the appraiser's value as the selling price, and no offer has yet been made.

In the "olden time" there were many happy gatherings at the Fort, citizens from other points joining with officers and soldiers in social dances and general merrymaking.

A library was also maintained, and a theatrical entertainment now and then whiled away the long winter evenings at the old frontier post.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

EPHRAIM BATES, the first settler on the north side of Little Elk river, was born on the 25th of May, 1835, in Livingston county, New York. He served in the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, from the 12th of July, 1862, till the 12th of June, 1865, receiving several wounds and losing the sight of one eye. In October, 1870, Mr. Bates came to Minnesota and located on railroad land in Green Prairie township. Five years ago he removed to his present home, about five miles west of his former location. He was married on the 19th of January, 1866, to Miss Lucetta M. Roberts, who has borne him seven children; Effie, Benjamin, Theodore, Cora, Eva, Sadie, and Carrie. Mr. Bates has held the offices of Supervisor, Town Clerk, Justice of the Peace, and has been School Clerk every year except the first of his residence here.

JOHN DENNY, one of the early settlers of this region, was born in Suffolk county, England, on the 19th of September, 1820. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, after which, for seven and a half years, he was a member of the Staffordshire Constabulary, part of the time acting as detective. He came to America, reaching New York on the 20th of July, 1855, and located at LeRoy. In 1866, he removed to Genesee county, Michigan, remained for two years and came to Minnesota. Mr. Denny and family reached Sank Rapids, then the terminus of the railroad, on the 5th of September, 1868; the next day arrived at Belle





Prairie, and the next, crossed the river to his present farm, where he has built a fine home. He was one of the prime movers in organizing this town, has held several terms of office, and is Treasurer this year. On the 28th of October, 1851, he was married to Miss Ella Samuel, in the old Dudley church, near the ruins of Dudley Castle. They have had eight children, six of whom are living; Mary, William, Clara, Elizabeth, Fred, and Robert.

AUGUSTUS HENRY DORMAN was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 30th of December, 1837. When he was but five years old, the family came to America and settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Augustus learned the carpenter trade. On the 16th of November, 1864, he enlisted in Company F, of the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served till the close of the war, participating in the battle of Petersburg, where he was slightly wounded. He was mustered out at Jeffersonville, Indiana, on the 10th of June, 1865, and at once returned to Wisconsin, where he was employed at his trade until coming to Minnesota in 1878. Mr. Dorman came directly to the farm on which he has lived ever since. He was married in 1861, to Miss Betsy Lock, who is a native of New York. They have four children, all girls.

EX-SERGEANT EDWARD DAVIS, a native of Cardiganshire, South Wales, was born on the 15th of June, 1829. When eighteen years of age, he came to America with his brother William, in search of their father, John Davis, who had left England some years before with a caravan of English merchants, and while passing through Texas, or Mexico, was robbed by Guerrillas, after which Mr. Davis entered the United States army, serving through the Seminole war, in Florida. Edward arrived in 1848, and after considerable fruitless search, enlisted in the regular army on the 13th of November, 1848. The following year, while at Fort Ontario, he learned, through his father's old Captain, then commandant at the fort, of his whereabouts, in Illinois. He wrote to his mother, and on her arrival, obtained a furlough, went with her to his father's locality and participated in the joyful reunion, returning soon to duty. His whole time of service, broken by intervals of citizen's life, was twenty years ten months and fourteen days, during which, only the first three months of his enlistment were spent as a private soldier. The greater portion of the time he held the rank of Sergeant, and for several years, that of Orderly-Sergeant. Mr. Davis has served in all

parts of the Union, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and in the department of the Gulf; has enjoyed the personal friendship of our most distinguished military men, and has, on several occasions, declined commissions, by reason of doubt as to his ability to fully meet the requirements. His first service at Fort Ripley was in the fall of 1870. In 1876, he was again stationed here with a commission as Orderly-Sergeant. His final discharge was on the 18th of November, 1876. The "endorsements" and "recommends" among his military papers are such as any man might be proud of, and yet, no boastful word is ever heard from the faithful old soldier.

Since the abandonment of Fort Ripley, in July, 1878, Ex-Sergeant Davis has been stationed here by the Government to attend to the buildings and prevent pillage or other damage, a duty he has performed most faithfully, and saved the Government thousands of dollars. On the 26th of December, 1867, while in the service, he was married at Newport, Kentucky, to Mrs. Mary Ann Tracy, widow of Francis Tracy, who served in the United States Infantry and died at Warsaw, Kentucky, leaving two children, Patrick and Francis, now members of Mr. Davis' family. Mrs. Davis has had by her present husband, five children, three of whom are living; John W., Sarah A. and Mary E. Francis, an infant son died in Texas, and Katie died here in March, 1881. Mrs. Davis accompanied the army during her husband's service, after their marriage. Mr. Davis has now taken a homestead near Fort Ripley, on part of the original reservation, where he expects to spend his declining years, until the last "bugle call" shall summon him to the presence of the "Great Commander" to receive and enjoy his "well done good and faithful servant."

JAMES FINNEY was born in Warren county, Ohio, on the 14th of April, 1848. His parents removed to Illinois when he was but a year old, and after living in Pike county about six years, came to Minnesota and settled near Northfield. On the 12th of March, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and went to the frontier on Gen. Sully's expedition, after which he was ordered south. He took part in the battles of The Cedars, Stone River, Kingston, and a number of others, and was honorably discharged on the 11th of July, 1865. Returned to his former home, near Northfield, and afterwards visited various portions of the Union, finally set-



ting on his present farm in 1878. Mr. Finney was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Pennock, in 1879. Mrs. Finney is a native of Hancock county, Illinois, and was born on the 15th of July, 1858.

MARTIN HALL, the oldest living settler in the central part of this town, was born in Genesee county, New York, in 1811. In 1865, he came to this State, and in April of the following year settled in Green Prairie. Mr. Hall was the prime mover in the organization of the town, one of its first Supervisors, and has been in office every year since. In 1869, he secured the establishment of Green Prairie Post-office, and has since been Postmaster. Miss Evelina Salisbury became his wife on the 2d of January, 1832. They have had ten children, seven of whom are living; Edwin, Mary, William, Freeman, Franklin, Albert, and George. The latter resides at home and has charge of the farm.

RUFUS HENDERSON was born in Canada on the 12th of December 1851. In 1869, he removed to Iowa, and in 1872, enlisted in the Twentieth United States Regular Infantry; was one year in Dakota Territory, and then came to Fort Ripley. At the time of the Custer massacre, he went on a tour to Montana and other western points, under General Terry; they arrived after the fight, just in time to bury the unfortunate victims. He then returned to Fort Ripley, remaining till the expiration of his term, in 1877. He soon after took a homestead in this township, where he still resides. He was married on the 20th of September, 1879, to Miss Ellen Brundrett, who has borne him one child, Florence.

MOSES MINER, a native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on the 15th of December, 1839. He came to Minnesota in 1869, and was a regular soldier at Fort Ripley for five years, then, for over two years was Government blacksmith at the same place, after which he located in this township. He was married to Miss Eliza Brundrett, of this town, in February, 1878. They have one child, George E.

JOHN PENNOCK is a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and was born on the 4th of August, 1825. His parents removed to Hancock county, Illinois, in 1832, where John grew to manhood. On the breaking out of the civil war, he enlisted in Company G, of the Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Grand Gulf, Vicksburg, Columbus, Franklin,

Nashville, and many others. After his discharge he again enlisted, serving till the close of the war in the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. He then returned to Illinois, and in 1866, came to Minnesota, and after remaining three years in McLeod county, removed to Howard Lake, Wright county, and thence, in 1879, to Green Prairie, where he owns one of the best farms in the township. Mr. Pennock was married in 1847, to Miss Melinda J. Newingham, who is a native of Ohio. They had seven children, four of whom are living; one son and three daughters.

WILLIAM RACICOT, the oldest living settler in Green Prairie, was born in Canada, on the 24th of January, 1826. He came to Green Prairie, Minnesota, on the 9th of May, 1857, locating on his present farm. On the 16th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, of the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving till the 18th of August, 1865. Owing to the general alarm on account of the Indians, his family returned to Canada during the period of his enlistment, but returned on the 1st of November, 1865. For eleven years, Mr. Racicot was County Commissioner, was also Chairman of the first board of Supervisors, and until the last three years, was always in town offices and often holding two or three at the same time, but never by solicitation. On the 16th of February, 1852, he was married to Miss Julia A. Foisy. They have had ten children, eight of whom are living. Mr. Racicot's parents are both living in Green Prairie, his father being eighty years old and his mother one year younger. Their marriage occurred fifty-nine years ago.

GEORGE SWINDELL was born in England, on the 28th of November, 1819. In 1850, he came to America and located in Illinois, where he remained until the spring of 1865, and came to Minnesota. He first settled in Steele county, remaining until 1878, and then came to his present home in this township. In 1842, he married Miss Ann Ashton, who died seven years after, leaving three children; Louise, George, and Alice. In 1875, he was married to Mrs. Caroline Boyse. Her son, Bert, now lives with them.

GILBERT T. SMITH was born in Seneca county, New York, on the 22d of February, 1827. When twenty-seven years old he came to Minnesota, locating in St. Paul where he remained two years, and moved to Dayton, Hemlock county. In 1862, he returned to St. Paul, and five years later, went to Otsego, Wright county, remaining until 1877.





Then, after living in Dayton two years, he came to his present farm in Green Prairie township. Mr. Smith has a fine water-power on the Little Elk river, which runs through his farm, where he is building a lumber and shingle mill. On the 15th of December, 1851, he was married to Miss Lydia Shuyter, of Steuben county, New York. They have had seven children, five of whom are living; Perry A., Lizzie A., William D., Hattie, and George B. The first three named have homesteads on section eighteen near their father's farm. Charles, aged eleven years, died in 1864, and Cynthia, aged two and a half, in 1860.

## LITTLE FALLS.

### CHAPTER CXLV.

#### DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY HISTORY—VILLAGE OF LITTLE FALLS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Much of the history of Little Falls has already been given in the county history. Its original boundaries have been materially changed and much reduced by the formation of new towns, as the territory became settled. West of the Mississippi the town includes one whole, and a small fractional township, in all about forty-one square miles. On the east, the town originally extended to the eastern limit of the county, but was reduced by the organization of the town of Pierz, to its present limits of about fifty-eight sections, extending about twelve miles east from the river, with a breadth of about five miles. Its northern boundary is a correction line, which leaves the township deficient in width. When the town of Pierz was organized, by a clerical error or omission, thirty sections in the eastern part of the county were not included, and are therefore still a part of Little Falls, though twelve miles distant from the town proper. The portion west of the river is level, timber and meadow alternating, and with a soil unsurpassed for fertility.

The oldest permanent settler on the west side is Milo Porter, who removed from the village opposite in 1868. His residence is within the village limits, a portion of the west side having been platted in the days of mills and manufacturing already noted. His place was the first improved on this side, Mr. John Workman having built the house now constituting a part of Mr. Porter's resi-

dence some years previous, afterward selling to Mr. Hyson, from whom it was purchased by Mr. Porter.

The principal stream on this side is Pike Creek, which flows eastward through the central part, and with its tributaries drains the western and central portions of the town. Little Elk river crosses the extreme northeastern part of the town, affording a fine water-power, of which mention is made in the general history of the county.

East of the Mississippi the surface is level, or gently undulating, except along the streams east, where it is somewhat broken. The soil varies from a light sandy loam, to rich dark loam, and in some parts clay. Along the Mississippi, and near the smaller streams in the eastern part, considerable prairie abounds, and extensive tracts of wild meadow are found in the central part, bordering on Platte and Rice lakes, the only lakes of note within the town. The Platte, Rice, and Skunk rivers, all in the central and eastern part, are the principal streams.

The early settlers of this town, besides mention already made of many in the preceding pages, are further mentioned in the biographical sketches following.

The town was organized in 1858, and an election held on the 11th of May, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, P. B. Thompson, Chairman, J. R. Perkins, and Nathan Bates; Clerk, William Morse; Assessor, T. M. Smith; Treasurer, F. X. Gravel. The meeting was held at John Ault's hotel, now the Vasaly House, and the total number of votes cast was eighty-two.

A ferry was started just above the village in 1857, by William Sturgis, which was in use about three years. A ferry was also established at Swan River by William Aitkin, soon after his location there in 1818, which was in use till 1863.

The suspension of these ferries was a matter of great annoyance to the settlers on either side of the Mississippi, there being no crossing within the county limits below Fort Ripley, where a ferry was established by the Government about 1849 or 1850. For several years the principal means of crossing was by fording the stream near Swan River, which, however, was not unattended by danger, and could only be accomplished during low water. On the 1st of April, 1868, the board of County Commissioners passed a resolution appropriating six hundred dollars for the establishment of three ferries in the county, the points designated being Belle



Prairie, Little Falls, and Bellevue, each to receive one-third the amount named. Little Falls and Belle Prairie united their funds and secured the establishment of a ferry at the former place, just above the village.

The first marriage ceremony was performed in the spring of 1856, uniting C. S. K. Smith and Miss Ellen Nichols.

Miss Nichols was also the first teacher here, having conducted a school at the village the summer previous to her marriage.

As yet, but a small part of the town of Little Falls, either east or west of the Mississippi, is under cultivation, but with the present projected improvements it is probable another decade will witness material advancement in agriculture.

**VILLAGE HISTORY.**—The village of Little Falls, aside from the distinction of being the County seat, has a marked advantage in the matter of location. Situated about midway between St. Cloud and Brainerd, on dry, level ground, with the best of railroad facilities, and a water-power unrivalled by any above St. Anthony Falls, with a large scope of agricultural country naturally tributary to this point, its future outlook is most flattering. The rise and fall of its manufacturing interests has already been given. Its early remarkable rise, and subsequent decline are not subjects for wonder. The universal tendency to immoderate and unreasonable speculation which marks the history of the entire valley at that period, carried this place, as many others, too far in advance of their surroundings, and it was only the immutable law of cause and effect that wrought the ruin which followed. Since that time men have grown wiser, and now the improvements in progress, as well as those in contemplation, are based upon shrewd, safe calculation, and will result in success. The proposed improvement of the magnificent water-power is a sure harbinger of grand achievements in the near future, and it requires no prophetic vision to assure the observer that the village will soon rank among the most prosperous towns in this valley. The Little Falls and Dakota railroad, when completed, will still further enhance the value of property in this locality, and afford additional advantages to the citizens of this district.

Respecting this road we can give no clearer statement than the following extract from a letter written by Hon. Nathan Richardson, of Little Falls, under date of October 16th, 1881. "At

the last session of the Legislature a swamp land grant of six sections to the mile was given to this road, extending from Little Falls to the west line of the State, by way of Sauk Centre, Greenwood, and Morris. The road is now nearly all graded from a point five miles east of Sauk Centre to Morris, in Stevens county, and during the winter it is the intention of the Company to do the grading from Little Falls to Sauk Centre, which is mostly through timber lands, so when spring opens they will commence laying the track, and will have completed laying the track by the 1st of November, 1882. Parties who are interested in the building of this line of road have recently bought the water-power at this place, and will commence to improve it immediately." It is supposed the railroad bridge will extend across the Mississippi river not far above Boom Island, and arrangements will doubtless be made for a wagon bridge in connection. The island just referred to is not without its local history or tradition. William Nicholson states that in the early settlement of this place, a small party of Chippewa Indians were camping on this island, and not anticipating any evil, were unguardedly enjoying their repose, when a band of Sioux noiselessly crossed the channel, and under cover of darkness stole in upon the sleepers, and killed and scalped the entire party except a young girl, who swam the river and secreted herself in a stable, where she was found next morning pierced through with an arrow. She was well known to the villagers, and a universal favorite, but refused the hospitality offered, as well as the medical attendance urged, saying she did not want to live, as her friends were all dead. She bore her pain with that silent stoicism characteristic of her race, until death sealed her passport to the happy hunting grounds of her kindred.

The village organization is among the later events in its history. The bill incorporating it was approved February 25th 1879, with the following described boundaries: Sections seven and eight, and the north half of sections seventeen and eighteen, town forty, range thirty-two, and lot three in section thirty-four, town forty-one, range thirty-two; and lots one, two, and three in section seventeen, and the east half of the northeast quarter of section eighteen, and the east half of section nineteen, town one hundred and twenty-nine, range twenty-nine.

The first election was held at the court house





on the 18th of March, 1879, and the following officers elected: President, Leon Houde; Trustee, Peter Medved; Recorder, A. O. Churchill; Treasurer, John Wetzel; Justice of the Peace, James McCauley. On the 21st of March, the Council held its first meeting, at which several ordinances were passed, and Jerry Root appointed Marshal.

Little Falls, in 1856, was the only place within the present limits of Morrison county where the right of suffrage was exercised, and the number of voters present at the fall election that year was one hundred and thirty.

The first newspaper published in the county was the "Northern Herald," by Colonel French, who commenced its publication here in the fall of 1856. Two or three months of frontier editorial life sufficed the "Colonel," and he sold the office to the Little Falls Manufacturing Company, and followed the summer birds in their flight southward, since which the only knowledge his friends have of him was obtained through "Harper's Weekly," where a cartoon represented him in the custody of a United States Marshall, having been detected in some work of treason against the Government.

The next editorial effort was by C. E. Church, who bought the outfit from the company above named, and published a paper for about two years, when he yielded himself to the god Bacchus, and the "Herald" was discontinued. From that time until 1874, Morrison county was without a newspaper; then the "Little Falls Courier" was started by A. De Lacy Wood, who continued its publication about two years, then removed to Reedsburg, Wisconsin. The first man to make a success of newspaper work here was H. C. Stivers, who began the publication of "The Little Falls Transcript" after the departure of Wood, issuing the first number under date of September 7th, 1876. On the 16th of August, 1880, he also began the issue of a small daily paper, "The Daily Transcript." In May, 1881, the "Transcript" was leased by its present editor, J. F. Pearson, who discontinued the "Daily Transcript," devoting his attention to the "Weekly."

Of the thirty-eight schools in Morrison county, the leading one is the Independent School of Little Falls. Three teachers are employed in this school, and the number enrolled is one hundred and seventy-three, nearly one-seventh of the enrollment of the entire county. The school property in the village is valued at \$3,200.

In 1857, a Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at this place, under the pastoral efforts of Rev. A. J. Nelson, and a church edifice erected the same year. The society not being able to meet the entire cost of building, the church was mortgaged for the amount unpaid, which debt remained until 1870, when the building was sold to the Catholic society who fitted it up for their place of worship. It is hardly necessary to add that the Methodist Church has ceased its existence.

The Rev. Bishop Whipple organized an Episcopal Church here as early as 1858, and in 1870, the society erected a small, but neat edifice, in which services have since been held, though at somewhat irregular intervals, the society necessarily depending upon pastors of other and wealthier societies for their supply.

A Congregational Church was organized at this place June 6th, 1859. The first pastor was Rev. E. Newton, and F. J. Farrand and Ezra Hicks were chosen Trustees. Rev. W. B. Dada succeeded Mr. Newton in 1860, remaining until the fall of 1862, when rumors of an Indian outbreak caused his sudden and final departure. The church was then without a pastor until 1870, when Rev. W. A. Cutler assumed the charge of this and the Belle Prairie church, remaining until 1875, when he was succeeded by Rev. D. W. Rosenkranz. During the first year of his ministry here, a fine church building was erected. Rev. J. S. Hull, the present pastor, succeeded Mr. Rosenkranz in January, 1881. Services are held in the church every Sunday morning and evening, the pastor here supplying the church at Belle Prairie each Sunday afternoon. The present membership is thirty-seven.

The Catholic church is the most numerous of any of the religious denominations here, but had no house of worship until the purchase of the old Methodist church before mentioned. Several priests have held services here since the organization of the society. The present priest is Rev. Charles Augustus Richard, who came in 1878, and has since remained, except a brief absence, during which the church was supplied by Rev. Joseph Puh.

Secret societies have not been as numerous as is usually found in communities of this size. The Good Templars were the first to organize here, and about 1870, had a lodge which for several years was in a flourishing condition, but has since been allowed to die out.

A Grange was organized on the 17th of April,



1876, which, if not dead, is at least dormant, though it enjoyed an average degree of prosperity for a brief period after its organization.

Little Falls Lodge No. 140, A. F. and A. M. was organized U. D. in the summer of 1879, and received its charter in January, 1880. The number of charter members was eleven, and the first officers were: J. H. Rhodes, W. M.; A. Tanner, S. W.; L. Segnor, J. W.; L. G. Worthington, Sec.; and J. Root, Treas. The present membership is fifteen.

The Fire Department of Little Falls is a recent addition to the popular institutions of the village. The North Star Hook and Ladder Company was organized in September, 1878, with the following officers: Chief Engineer, Peter Medved; Foreman, T. J. Hayes; Treasurer, C. J. Simmons; and Secretary, S. C. Vasaly. The organization has twenty-eight members, and are provided with a hook and ladder truck, accompanied by the usual equipment, and a fire engine is soon to be added, making this one of the most efficient organizations in the valley.

The village has the usual complement of stores, hotels, and other business places; a small sash, door, and blind factory built in 1878, and a sash, door, and blind factory and planing and feed mill combined, built by White & Bullard in the spring of 1879.

A large elevator recently built by Sawyer & Davis, of Duluth, near the depot, furnishes ample facilities for storing grain, having a capacity of 25,000 bushels.

The population and business development of Little Falls, though marked by many changes in the past, is now steadily advancing, and the future promises an era of universal prosperity.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CLARENCE B. BUCKMAN, the founder of the town of Buckman, was born on the 1st of April, 1850, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he lived till manhood. Then he came to Minnesota for his health; was in St. Paul a few weeks and came thence to St. Cloud. Late in the fall of 1872, he explored the region from which the town was carved that now bears his name, and was so well pleased with the outlook, that he purchased some land, and the following spring, moved there and began opening a farm. Was one of the first settlers in the town of Buckman, and held several local offices; was elected to the State Legislature in the fall of 1880,

representing the counties of Morrison, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, Benton, and Sherburne. Mr. Buckman also has an interest in two hundred acres of land in Stearns county, one hundred and fifty of which are broken. He came to the village of Little Falls in the fall of 1880, is engaged in the manufacture of railroad ties, and is also in the lumber business. On the 13th of September, 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Emma C. Harvey, of St. Cloud. In the fall of 1876, Mr. Buckman met with an accident while engaged near a threshing machine and has since worn an artificial limb.

JOHN BILLINGER was born in New York in 1849. When he was young, his parents located in Wisconsin. In 1866, Mr. Billinger came to Sauk Centre, Stearns county, where he learned the blacksmith trade. Four years later, he removed to St. Cloud, and for ten years was employed at his trade. Then, in 1880, he came to this town, where he is conducting a shop of his own.

PHILLIP W. BIDWELL was born in Columbus, Wisconsin, on the 26th of February, 1853. In the fall of 1863, the family removed to Minnesota, locating in Austin, where his father worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1867, they came to this county, remained for eight years and removed to Kansas, Phillip stopping at Sioux City, where he was engaged in steamboating on the upper Missouri river. In 1876, Mr. Bidwell came to Mower county, Minnesota, remaining until one year ago, when he came to his present home. Since his residence here he has been engaged as carpenter and harness-maker.

JOHN BOYLES, a native of Monmouth, Illinois, was born on the 11th of July, 1842. When he was an infant, his parents moved to Wisconsin, where John remained until coming to this county, in September, 1878. Mr. Boyles was married on the 17th of August, 1864, to Miss Melinda Curtis, daughter of S. G. Curtis, who is one of the pioneers of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. They have had three children; two died in infancy, and the eldest, Theodore, is now seventeen years of age.

JAMES BROWN, a native of Ireland, came to America in 1861. For six years he lived in Ohio, devoting his time to gardening and farming. In 1867, he came to Little Falls, where he is engaged in the Hack and Livery business, also carries mail to and from the trains. Mr. Brown has held the offices of Deputy Sheriff and Constable.

EDWARD BRODER was born in Canada in 1850.





Came to Michigan when about eighteen years of age, and was employed on steamboats and at farming until his return to Canada. He then learned the blacksmith trade, at which he was engaged till 1874, after which, for about two years, he was working at his trade in Manitoba, then was in the employ of the stage company between Bismarek and the Black Hills. In 1878, he came to Little Falls and opened a blacksmith shop, to which his partner now attends, he having charge of a branch shop at Royalton, which they opened in the spring of 1881.

DAVID T. CALHOUN is a native of Tennessee, born on the 22d of June, 1853. He is a son of Rev. Thomas Calhoun, whose father was also a clergyman. His maternal grandfather was the Rev. David Lowry, who came to Minnesota in an early day, and was a missionary among the Winnebago Indians; he was also Indian agent at Long Prairie, Todd county, for a number of years. The subject of this sketch came to St. Cloud with his parents in 1857. They went to Iowa, however, in 1864, and David received his education in that State, but is now a resident of Little Falls.

ALLEN J. CRAMPTON was born on the 12th of July, 1853, in Canada. At the age of twelve years, he came to the Chippewa valley, Wisconsin, locating just below Eau Claire. In 1876, he came to this region on a hunting expedition, and was so well pleased with the country, that he decided to make it his home. Since his residence here he has been in the lumber business some, but given his principal attention to farming. On the 1st of January, 1881, he was married to Mrs. Philinda Briggs, who has three children by a former marriage.

THOMAS G. COCHRAN was born near Oskaloosa, Iowa, on the 8th of May, 1859. He came to Bellevue, Morrison county, when but four years old, and in 1863, removed to Two Rivers, remained four years and then came to Little Falls village. Mr. Cochran came to his present location, in section five, at the mouth of Little Elk river, west of the Mississippi, in the spring of 1881. He spent one year at the Black Hills, and one in southern Iowa since coming to Minnesota. Mr. Cochran's mother died when he was but four years old, since which time his two sisters, Telitha and Sadie, have resided with him.

ABNER WILSON CAMP was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on the 3d of October, 1835. He received his education, and remained there until nineteen years old. Then, coming to Min-

nesota, he located on Boom Island, near Fort Snelling, and during the winter was employed by his brother, George A. Camp. In 1855, he came to Little Falls, where he was engaged in surveying. In May, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, of the First Minnesota Volunteers, was for a short time on the frontier, and then sent south. He participated in the first battle of Bull Run, in July, 1861, where he was disabled, and the following December, discharged. After his discharge, he returned to his native place in New York, but remained only a short time and came to Minneapolis, and soon after to his father's farm in Swan River. Mr. Camp now has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in section thirty-four, which adjoins his father's old claim. He now lives on the old homestead, his parents both being dead.

WILLIAM L. DOW was born in 1829, in Milltown, Maine, where he learned the millwright trade, at which occupation he was engaged until 1856. He then came to Minneapolis, and the following year, to Little Falls, where he worked at his trade until 1860; then, for one year, devoted his time to exploring the pine lands in the vicinity. On the 11th of October, 1861, Mr. Dow enlisted in Company A, of the First Minnesota Cavalry. Serving only about nine months, he joined Company G, of the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, and in February following, joined Braekett's Battalion, of Minneapolis, from which he was mustered out May 16th, 1866. Returning to Little Falls, Mr. Dow engaged in the lumber business until 1869, since when, with the exception of one term, he has acted as County Surveyor.

TRUE DOTEN, a native of Maine, was born on the 21st of January, 1850. In the fall of 1869, he came to Minnesota, located in this town on the west side of the river, on a homestead, which he afterward sold, and in 1880, bought his present farm. On the 1st of January, 1877, he was married to Miss Mary Hallinen, who was born on the 2d of January, 1857, at Sank Rapids. They have two children.

JAMES EGGLESTON was born in Franklin county, New York, on the 26th of November, 1806. He resided in his native place until coming to Minnesota in January, 1855. He first located in Kandiyohi county, thence to Kansas, and after a residence of four years, came here in the spring of 1881, and took a homestead on Little Elk river, about one mile from its mouth. Mr. Eggleston is a carpenter and joiner, at which trade he has



worked about forty years. He was married on the 26th of January, 1831, to Miss Mary Burns, of Vermont, who bore him six children, and died in April, 1868.

STEPHEN P. FULLER, a pioneer of this town, is a native of Newburg, now a ward of Cleveland, Ohio, his nativity dating on the 8th of November, 1822. When young, he learned the carpenter trade, and has followed it most of his life. In April, 1838, he came to Green Bay, Wisconsin, and from there to Illinois, remaining two or three years. In 1853, he came to Minnesota, and after spending a few months in this place returned to Illinois. The following year he returned to Minnesota, lived in Minneapolis and Anoka for two years, and in May, 1856, came to this place and brought his family the year following. He first lived on the west side, but in the spring of 1859, moved to the east side. With the exception of about six months, Mr. Fuller has been Justice of the Peace since 1861; has held the offices of Court Commissioner, Judge of Probate, and Clerk of Court, each one term; also held the office of Town Clerk several terms, and at present, acts in that capacity. Miss Mary Babbitt, of Ontario county, New York, became his wife on the 11th of December, 1856. They have two children, both residing at home.

G. M. A. FORTIER, M. D., was born at Saint David, Canada, on the 15th of April, 1857. He received his education at Victoria College, Montreal, graduating on the 24th of March, 1881, and came directly to Little Falls, where he follows his profession.

PHILLIP H. GROSS, a native of Germany, was born in 1840, and came to America in 1863. For three years he was engaged in cigar-making in Indiana. He then came to St. Cloud and carried on the same business for two years. After living on a farm until 1880, he came to Little Falls and built the Little Falls House, of which he is still the proprietor.

WILLIAM GEORGE GREEN was born in Somersetshire, England, on the 6th of April, 1850. He remained there, receiving an education, until fourteen years of age, when he went to sea, and was cabin boy on a schooner. In 1866, he came to America, locating in New York, where he was employed on a farm until coming to Minnesota, in 1867. Soon after his removal to this State, he came to Little Falls and purchased his farm, which contains about three hundred and sixty acres. In

1874, Mr. Green was married to Mrs. Sarah H. Hammond, who had three children, one daughter and two sons, by her first marriage, and has three daughters and one son by the present union.

WILLIAM E. HARTING was born in Lancaster, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1832. There he learned the carpenter's trade, which has since been his occupation. In 1871, he came to Minnesota and located in St. Paul, and for three years was with the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company, as carpenter and machinist. Then went to the Northern Pacific Junction and was in charge of the round house at that place till 1876. He came to Little Falls in the latter year, and has since been engaged in carpentering and building, employing from twelve to fifteen men in the summer season. Mr. Harting has a son who is a partner with him in business.

ELVIN G. HILL was born in St. James Parish, New Brunswick, on the 9th of May, 1833. When he was six years of age, his parents removed to Maine, and in 1855, he came to the town of Bellevue, Minnesota. He served three years in Company E, of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. In the spring of 1867, he went to California and returned in the fall. In 1870, Mr. Hill bought three hundred acres of land, on which was a good water-power, grist and saw-mill. In 1879, he sold the grist-mill to E. S. Getchell who removed it to Swan river, where it has been remodeled and rebuilt. He also sold the farm to his brother, H. S. Hill, and is now living in Little Falls village. He was married on the 22d of January, 1873, to Miss Isadora A. Mix, of Vermont. They have four children.

HENRY HARRISON was born near the city of Charleston, Virginia, on the 4th of November, 1829. His father moved to Arkansas in 1836, and three years later, to Covington, Kentucky, where our subject received his education and afterwards attended the high-school at Georgetown for a year. After leaving school, he learned the printer's trade, and in 1857, was employed on the "Cincinnati Daily Commercial" until the 15th of April, 1861, when he enlisted in Company F, of the Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. On being discharged he re-enlisted as a veteran in the Heavy Artillery, under Captain Webb. On the 30th of July, 1864, he was wounded, taken to the White Hall hospital and kept for one year, since which time he has received a pension. On his removal from the hospital he went to New Jersey, where he published the "New





Jersey Mechanic" two years, after which he came to Minnesota and selected his present farm in Little Falls. He did not move here, however, until after an engagement of several years on the "St. Paul Evening Dispatch," and about two years on the "Sibley County Independent." It was then, in 1875, that he located in this place, and has since been elected to the office of Assessor three times. In 1867, Miss Annie McCoy, a native of Ireland, became his wife. They have had three children, two of whom are living.

PATRICK W. HAYES was born in Limerick county, Ireland, on the 15th of August, 1842. At the age of eleven years, he came to America with his sister, two years his senior, and joined their father in Canada. In 1857, Mr. Hayes came to Minnesota, and, though only fifteen years of age, was employed as traveling salesman by Temple and Baupre, wholesale grocers of St. Paul. He continued in the business until 1873, making trips to the Indian Agencies at Crow Wing and Leech Lake at regular intervals, usually having charge of six loaded teams on these trips; also traded at stores along the route. In 1873, he came to Little Falls, and two years later, removed to Long Prairie, Todd county, where he was County Commissioner five years and held some town office every year. He came to his present farm in 1881. On the 20th of December, 1866, he was married to Miss Alice E. Churchill, of Little Falls. They have had six children; one died in infancy, and five are living.

WILLIAM H. HARKER is a native of Dubuque county, Iowa. Since 1879, he has been Assistant Station Agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, at Little Falls, excepting six months, when he was at Jamestown Station in Dakota.

LOUIS HAMLIN was born in Canada, in 1833. When he was a child, the family removed to Northampton, Massachusetts. In Belchertown, Massachusetts, he learned the blacksmith trade, at which he was employed until 1856, when he came to Little Falls. Here, for eight years, he followed the lumbering business, but since 1864, has been engaged at his trade.

THOMAS J. HAYES, Sheriff of Morrison county since 1872, was born in Ireland, in 1846. The family came to Canada in 1853, where Thomas remained till 1861, and came to Port Huron, Michigan. For two years he was engaged as clerk in the Post-office, then removing to Kentucky, he was employed as clerk in a store. In 1866, Mr. Hayes

came to Little Falls, and for six years, was employed in drawing freight for the frontier Ports, but has since acceptably filled the position above mentioned.

ELLIOTT J. KIDDER, one of the pioneers of this town, was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of June, 1831. When six years of age he removed with his parents to Iowa, locating near Iowa City. The winter of 1847-48, he spent at McGregor, Iowa, and in 1849, he, with his father, John M. Kidder, after looking about St. Paul and St. Anthony, visited Big Meadows. In 1853, they came to Little Falls and opened a store, which they carried on until the death of his father in 1864. Then he carried on the enterprise alone until sometime during the summer, when he closed the business, but resided in the village until 1877. He then removed to his present farm, his land being entered at the first land sale, in 1855. Mr. Kidder was one of the first County Commissioners of this county, has held several local offices, and always taken an interest in public affairs. He was married on the 25th of December, 1853, to Miss Matilda A. Trimble, of Iowa City. They have had nine children, six of whom are living.

CHARLES H. LAIRD was born on the 5th of January, 1848, in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1862, he came with his parents to Wisconsin; served for eight months in Company D, of the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, after which he was engaged in a carpenter shop at Eau Claire. Mr. Laird spent a few months at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1880, and later, was in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, and also one winter engaged as a clerk in a hotel at Black River Falls. In the spring of 1881, he came to this township, where he has been occupied at his trade. On the 3d of April, 1868, he was married to Miss Mary Keenan, who has borne him five children, only two of whom are living, a boy and a girl.

MOSES LEFOND, a native of Lower Canada, was born on a farm on the 7th of March, 1836, where he remained until nineteen years old. Then, coming to Minnesota, he was engaged in the lumbering business on the Mississippi and Rum rivers. In 1856, he came to Little Falls, where, for six years, he devoted his time to various occupations. The thirteen years following he was in a butcher shop, where for seven years he supplied Fort Abercrombie with beef. He then became engaged in the mercantile business, which he still follows. In



1880, he built a small saw mill, which he also operates. In 1874, Mr. Lefond was a member of the State Legislature, and to him is mainly due the passage of the act protecting settlers who had located on the railroad lands.

J. D. LACHANCE, present County Auditor of Morrison county, was born in Canada on the 19th of October, 1845. In May, 1865, he came to Little Falls, where he has since resided. Mr. Lachance has been County Auditor since 1872, has also held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Deputy Sheriff, and Clerk of the District Court.

W. T. LAMBERT, present Treasurer of Morrison county, was born in Aroostook county, Maine, on the 24th of January, 1838. In 1856, he came to Minnesota, and in 1861, enlisted in the army, serving three years and ten months, returning to his home in this county. He was elected Treasurer in 1877, which office he has since filled.

SAMUEL LEE was born in Somersetshire, England, on the 23d of February, 1823. He learned the trade of a mill-wright, and at the age of sixteen, came to America, locating in Madison county, Illinois, where for five years, he was employed at his former occupation. Then, coming to Little Falls, Minnesota, in 1855, he was engaged at his trade for two years, and in October, purchased a farm in section eight, and remained for a year or two, moving to Todd county, and in 1860, returned to his farm. In September, 1863, Mr. Lee enlisted at Fort Snelling, in Company I, of the Independent Cavalry, under Captain Boyd. During his entire service of three years, he was at the frontier Forts. Mr. Lee, in company with his sons, is now engaged in building a flour mill in Swan River township, which is the only one in the town. The machinery will be propelled by a fifty horse-power engine, with a capacity for grinding twenty-five barrels of flour in twelve hours. Mr. Lee was married in 1848, to Miss Jane Green, of Somersetshire, England. They have had fourteen children; eight of whom are living, four boys and four girls.

SAMUEL MCCAULEY was born on the 9th of August, 1853, at St. Hyacinthe, Canada East. On the 22d of November, 1865, he came to Concord, New Hampshire, where he learned the carriage painter's trade with Abbott and Downing. He remained with them for eight and a half years, at the end of which time, he came to Little Falls and started the Concord Carriage Works.

F. W. McNALLY was born on the 22d of March, 1814, in the state of Rhode Island. He came to

Wisconsin in 1846, and when the war broke out, enlisted in Company I, of the Second Wisconsin Infantry, serving till after the first battle of Bull Run. Two years later, he went to Erie county, New York, and re-enlisted in Company D, of the Forty-ninth New York Infantry; served nearly three years, and re-enlisted in the same company. Was wounded at Cedar Creek, Virginia, and discharged, but on the 25th of June, 1866, he again enlisted, this time in the Forty-fourth United States Infantry and served three years. On account of the loss of a limb, while in the service, Mr. McNally receives a pension. On the 9th of September, 1877, he came to Little Falls, where he is engaged at his trade, that of a painter.

ROBERT C. MASTERS, a native of Virginia, was born on the 26th of April, 1809. When but an infant, his parents removed to Kentucky, where our subject attended school. In 1828, the family removed to Springfield, Illinois, Robert attending school there two years, then engaged as teacher one year, and afterwards devoted his time to farming and surveying. Since, 1855, Minnesota has claimed him as a resident, he first locating in Dakota county, where he was twice elected to the State Legislature by the Democratic party. Came to his present farm in 1878, and has since held the office of Justice of the Peace two years. Was married in 1833, to Miss Nancy Ann Traler, a native of Kentucky. They have had eight children, seven of whom, three girls and four boys, are living.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON, the oldest living settler of Morrison county, was born in Venango county, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of March, 1828. When he was a child his parents removed to western Ohio, where his mother died, in 1844. The following year, William left home, and came with friends to the Platte Mounds, in Wisconsin. In September, 1847, he came to Minnesota with a surveying party, and was engaged in surveying north of St. Paul. In the fall he joined a crew who came up the river, near this vicinity, for timber for the dam then about to be built at St. Anthony. Returning to St. Paul, he spent the winter on the survey, and returned to Wisconsin in March. In July, 1848, on the removal of the Winnebago Indians from Wisconsin and Iowa, he engaged as Government teamster at Watab and Long Prairie. In the latter place he found the Indian agent, Fletcher, and remained in his employ until October, putting up a building for a trading post. The winter of





1849-50, was spent in the pinneries. The following August, he came to Swan River, remaining until 1858. After the Indian outbreak, at the time of the treaty with the Chippewas, he was taken prisoner, not being held long however. During the period of anxiety and alarm, Mr. Nicholson was of great service to the garrison and settlers, making several secret trips, and once, at a great risk, guiding James Whitehead and Lafferty, the former bearer of a very important dispatch, to Crow Wing Agency. In the fall of 1862, Mr. Nicholson went on a trapping and hunting expedition, and then settled at Little Falls, remaining seven years, and removed to his present farm. In 1851, he was married, at Swan River, to Miss Margaret Anoka, who died in 1853, leaving one daughter, Mary, now a milliner at Brainerd.

JOHN F. ONEIL is a Canadian by birth, his nativity dating the 5th of August, 1858. In October, 1879, he came to Minnesota, and has resided with, or on the farm of his cousin, T. J. Hayes. Mr. Oneil has purchased a farm on section thirty. He has two brothers, Thomas and Michael, and also a sister, Johanna, in this place. His mother came here in 1880, and died during the winter.

JOSIAH PAGE is a native of Hampton, New Hampshire. He received a good education in his native place, and afterward learned the currier's trade, at which he was employed in New Hampshire and Massachusetts until the 4th of January, 1864. He then enlisted in the Twenty-third Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Company A, serving till mustered out in North Carolina, on the 25th of June, 1865. During his service, he participated in several active engagements, and when discharged, returned to his native State. Came to Minnesota in the spring of 1866, and located on a farm in Freeborn county, which was his residence till coming to his present farm on the 10th of June, 1875. Miss Cordelia Bumpus, of Massachusetts, became his wife in 1850. They have had three sons, two of whom are living; Warren L. and Charles W.

MILO PORTER, a native of Watertown, New York, was born on the 7th of July, 1818. When he was young, his parents moved to St. Lawrence county, where he remained until about twenty-four years of age. He then went to Allegany county, where he was engaged in farming. In 1851, he came west, locating in Sauk county, Wisconsin, being engaged in the hotel business be-

tween Reedsburg and Baraboo, and was also engaged in farming. He then moved to Juneau county, where he married Mrs. Anrelia Wirtz in 1863. The following year he came to Little Falls, residing for four years on the east side, one year as landlord of what is now the Vasaly House, and the balance of the time in the lumber business. In 1868, he settled in section seventeen, where he still resides. Mr. Porter served for about one year in Company E, of the Sixteenth Wisconsin Infantry, most of the time as Color Sergeant. He was wounded at Tallahatchee, and discharged on account of injuries received at the battle of Shiloh. They have four children; Asa, Hermon, Warren, and Leslie.

WILLIAM PEDLEY was born near London, England, on the 4th of January, 1836. Leaving his birthplace when about sixteen years of age, he came to America, located in Ohio and remained until June, 1855, when he came to this place. He took a claim in section nine, and built a house in the village where he resided two years, and then came to his claim. Mr. Pedley was one of the organizers of this county as well as of the town, has been County Commissioner and held several town offices. He was married in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 31st of May, 1855, to Miss Elizabeth Ragan, formerly of Cambridgeshire, England. They have had ten children, eight of whom are living. Two daughters are graduates of the Normal school and teach in this county, and one has yet, but partially completed her course.

HON. NATHAN RICHARDSON, one of the early settlers of Morrison county, and its first Register of Deeds, was born in Wayne county, New York, on the 24th of February, 1829. When Nathan was about six years old, his parents moved to Michigan, and settled in the town of Commerce, Oakland county. He received his education at the district school, and at the Romeo Academy, teaching school five winters before leaving Michigan. In the autumn of 1854, he came to the territory of Minnesota, and after remaining a short time in St. Paul, went up the Ram river, and spent the winter in lumbering. In the spring of 1855, he located at Little Falls, then containing little more than the site of a town, three families being there, living in log houses. A saw mill was in operation, but Chippewas were much more abundant than white people. The first work Mr. Richardson did here was to go into the woods, cut the trees, and hew and haul the timber for a hotel, which he



and his cousin, Lewis Richardson, erected. When the county was organized, Mr. Richardson was elected Register of Deeds, and was therefore, *ex-officio*, Clerk of the board of County Commissioners, which included also the duties of County Auditor and Treasurer. He held the office of Register between seven and eight years; then engaged in mercantile trade till 1871, studying law meanwhile, as he could command the time. In 1872, he commenced legal studies with more earnestness, was admitted to the Bar in 1876, and is now engaged in the practice of law. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1867, 1872, and 1878; was Chairman of the committee on Indian affairs during the second session; of the committee on towns and counties during the third; and was also on the committee on public lands and several special committees. He is quite active in politics, and is usually a delegate from his county in district and State conventions. Mr. Richardson was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Roof, of Morrison county, in June, 1857. They have five children; Clara, Martin M., Raymond J., Francis A., and Mary A.

HON. PETER ROY, deceased, was born on the 23d of February, 1828, in what is now Itasca county, Minnesota. His parents were both half-breeds, and had a large family of children, six of whom are living. In 1875, Peter Roy came to Morrison county, remaining on a farm until 1857, when he moved to Crow Wing and opened a store. He returned to his farm in this county, in 1862, and four years later sold it, moved to Little Falls, and until his death, devoted most of his time to the hotel business. Mr. Roy was three times elected to the Legislature, and at the time of his death was Town Clerk. He was married on the 3d of November, 1853, at the Chippewa Agency, to Miss Philomon Chouinard, who was also part Indian. Fourteen children were born to them, ten of whom are still living. Mr. Roy died on the 21st of June, 1881. Rising in the morning, he was apparently as well as ever, and while conversing with a friend, dropped from his chair, and before a physician could get to him he was dead.

WILLIAM H. ROLPH was born at Toronto, Canada, on the 14th of August, 1842. In 1860, he went to the Southern States, and when the war broke out was forced into service. After several unsuccessful attempts he made good his escape, and in 1863, came to Illinois, locating in Galesburg, where he resided until 1870. Then, coming

to Minnesota, he lived at St. Cloud for seven years, when he removed to his present farm at Little Falls. Mr. Rolph is a painter, and devotes a great portion of his time to that occupation. On the 10th of November, 1875, he was married to Miss Margaret Knettle, of Brockway Prairie.

JOSEPH H. ROY was born in St. Francois du Lac, Canada, in 1856. At the age of eighteen, he graduated in the Sorel College, after which he assisted his father, who was Collector of Inland Revenue. In 1879, he came to Little Falls, and was for a short time engaged in a store; but the past year, he has been employed in the offices of the County Auditor and Treasurer.

T. C. KINNE, a native of Norwich, Connecticut, was born on the 17th of September, 1847. In 1871, he graduated at the Hartford Theological Seminary, and moved to Wellsville, Kansas, where, for three years, he was pastor of the Congregational church of that place. He then came to Bellevue, Morrison county, and had charge of the Union church of that place. On account of poor health, Mr. Kinne was obliged to abandon the pulpit, and in 1880, came to Little Falls where he now resides.

JOHN H. RHODES was born at Ithaca, New York, in 1846. When young he learned the drug business, at which he worked for a time in his native State. In 1871, he came to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and opened a drug store, which he continued till coming to Little Falls in 1877.

ALFRED F. STOREY is a native of Galion, Ohio, and was born on the 22d of November, 1853, and received his education at the Central College of Iberia, Ohio. He came to Minnesota in 1873, and a year later, located at Sauk Centre, where he read law with Miner and Barto, till the fall of 1876. At the latter date he removed to St. Cloud, completed his studies in the office of Oscar Taylor, and was admitted to the Bar in July, 1877. He practiced in that place, with Mr. Taylor, till coming to Little Falls, in July, 1879. A few days after coming to this town, he was appointed County Attorney to fill a vacancy, and occupied the position till the close of the term. In the fall of 1880, he was elected Judge of Probate, which position he still occupies.

JONATHAN SIMMONS was born on the 29th of March, 1851, at Medina county, Ohio. He came with his parents to this place in 1856, and in 1868, removed to Louisiana, remaining till about 1873. Then came to Little Falls, and since his residence here has been prominent in public life;





was elected to the State Senate in 1878. Miss Charlotte Sparks, of St. Louis, Missouri, became his wife in the spring of 1873. They had one child, who died at the age of two years.

FRANK B. SIMMONS, a brother of Jonathan, was born at Little Falls, on the 18th of January, 1859. He attended school one year at Minneapolis, then learned the printer's trade in the "Transcript" office of this place, and now has a job office in the Post-office building. He is also Deputy Post-master.

ALLEN G. STONE was born in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, on the 13th of December, 1830. In early childhood he removed to Vermont, and in fall of 1870, to Iowa. Mr. Stone is a carpenter, and has worked at his trade for the last twenty years. He came to this place in 1879; has a residence in the village, and owns a farm on sections twenty and twenty-one, near the village. Was married to Miss Sarah Hill on the 11th of September, 1852. They have four sons, one employed on the farm, one at carpenter work, one in the employ of the Railroad Company, and one at school.

O. W. SYLVESTER was born in Waldo county, Maine, on the 22d of April, 1837. He remained in his native State until nineteen years of age, when he came to Minnesota and located in Morrison county. Was engaged in various pursuits until 1862, when he went to Crow Wing and was in mercantile business until 1867, when he returned to Morrison county, and has since resided in Little Falls. Mr. Sylvester was married in 1867, to Miss Ellen R. Gilman, daughter of Hon. David Gilman, of Watab. They have had three children, but one of whom, Oshea W., is living.

JOHN SHEA, a native of Northampton, New Brunswick, was born on the 22d of November, 1823. When about twenty-eight years of age, he removed to Maine, and three years later, to Minnesota. His first winter here was spent in the pinery, since which time he has devoted several years to the lumber business. He purchased his claim on section eighteen, of a half-breed, and entered it at the first land sale, at the usual Government price. The Chippewa Indians were numerous at that time, and sometimes very troublesome. Mrs. Shea is a lady very much interested in educational, religious, and social matters. On the 21st of September, 1847, they were married at Woodstock, New Brunswick. They have

had nine children; four died in infancy, and five are living.

ABRAHAM ST. PIERRE was born on the 15th of December, 1855, in Canada. In 1878, he came here and joined his brother Toussaent, who had been a resident of the State since 1864. They are equal shareholders in a fine farm on section twenty-eight. Toussaent was born in Canada on the 3d of October, 1848, and married in July, 1875, to Miss Philomen Roy, daughter of the late Hon. Peter Roy.

JONATHAN O. SIMMONS was born in Westfield, Medina county, Ohio, on the 12th of January, 1821. He remained on the farm till seventeen years old; then clerked in a store until twenty-one. For the fifteen years prior to coming to Little Falls, he was engaged in various occupations in his native State. He opened the first store at La Fayette, and was also engaged in the manufacture of flour, but principally devoted his time to live stock and the farm. In 1857, he came to this place, and for two and a half years was in the mercantile business, and one year in a hotel. Then, in 1861, he moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he was in the employ of the United States Government for a year, thence to Louisiana, remaining for five years in the mercantile business. Revisiting Little Falls in 1867, he remained for two years, and then went to Bismarck and pre-empted land on which he lived for three years. He finally returned to Little Falls, where he has since been practicing medicine. Mr. Simmons has also served as Justice of the Peace, Probate Judge, County Attorney, and Register of Deeds.

FRANK ISAIAH SCHLIEF was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, on the 31st of July, 1857. When he was about four years old, his parents moved to Minnesota, locating in Rice county, where they remained about eighteen years. Mr. Schlief learned the carpenter's trade, and for the greater portion of that time resided with his parents. In 1878, he came to Little Falls and purchased his present farm of two hundred and eighty acres, in section fourteen.

GEORGE L. STAPLES, deceased, a native of Maine, came to Minnesota in 1856. After spending one winter in Stillwater, he removed to Kanabec county, and was engaged in the lumber business for several years. Mr. Staples founded the town of Brunswick, now the county seat of Kanabec county, naming it for the town in his native State. After moving from the latter place, he lo



cated at Elk River, and was engaged in the general mercantile business for about four years. Then removed to Monticello, where he followed the same business until his death on the 18th of December, 1869. He left a wife and six children; five boys, one of whom died about six months after his father, and one daughter, Mrs. William Tubbs, now deceased. His two sons, Isaac E. and Samuel F., were both born in Brunswick, Minnesota.

Isaac E. was born on the 27th of April, 1859. He was married on the 27th of December, 1879, to Miss Minnie Chance, of Delano; they have one child, Cora May.

Samuel F. was also born in Brunswick, on the 19th of November, 1860. In February, 1881, the two brothers located in Little Falls, and are in partnership in the jewelry business.

JOHN P. SMITH was born in the town of Rodney, Mississippi, in 1852. In 1863, the family came to Clinton Falls, Minnesota, where John attended school four years. Then, moving to Owatonna, he was employed in a printing office for a year and a half. Returning to Mississippi, he was for two years engaged as overseer on a cotton plantation. In about 1870, Mr. Smith came to Dodge county, Minnesota, and resided on a farm for two years, and then, for about six months, had charge of a hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. He then returned to Dodge county, and carried on a meat market for about two years. His next move was to Waterville, LeSueur county, where he also conducted the meat business for a short time, and then came to Little Falls, where he has been engaged in the same line.

JAMES R. STEELE was born in Iowa City, Iowa, on the 30th of December, 1845. In 1854, the family came to Little Falls, where James lived until seventeen years of age. Then going to Leech Lake, he worked three years at the trading-post, thence to Crow Wing, in the same business, for four years. In 1869, he returned to Little Falls, and was in a meat market for a short time; then for a year and a half, in a hotel at Brainerd. Again coming to Little Falls, Mr. Steele purchased a farm just north of the village, working on it for five years. Since 1880, he has been employed by J. Simmons in the merchandise business.

ALFRED TANNER was born in Otsego county, New York, in 1840. When he was about nine years of age, his father moved with his family to

St. Paul. In 1857, Mr. Tanner came to Little Falls, where he was engaged in the mercantile business for some twelve years. Then selling out, he purchased a farm, which he carried on for five years. The year 1874, was spent in the hotel business at the same place, and from that time till 1879, he was employed as clerk in different houses. In the latter year, the firm of Simmons, Worthington & Tanner was formed, which existed but one year. In 1881, Mr. Tanner purchased the general merchandise establishment of Leon Houde, which he still owns. The Post-office is here located, Mr. Tanner acting as Postmaster.

ANTON TEMBREULL was born in Westphalia, Germany, on the 17th of March, 1849. At the age of six years, he came with his parents to Milwaukee county, Wisconsin. In 1861, he removed to St. Joseph, Stearns county, Minnesota, and in August, 1873, came to this town, locating on the farm which has since been his home. On the 17th of June, 1873, he was married to Miss Mary Lan-ger, who has borne him four children.

JAMES M. THORNTON was born near Sherbrooke, Canada, on the 12th of March, 1837. He was engaged in driving stage, and the freight business until 1858. He then came to Wisconsin, and in 1861, to Minnesota. In September of the latter year, he enlisted in Company F, of the Second Minnesota Infantry, serving until July, 1865. He was wounded at the battles of Chickamauga, Kennesaw Mountain, and at the burning of a bridge by our troops, on the Charleston and Savannah railroad. Was taken prisoner at Chickamauga, but paroled nine days later. On his return from the army he settled in Fillmore county. In 1878, he purchased a farm in this place and moved to it the following year. Mr. Thornton has been Deputy Sheriff for the past four years. In April, 1874, he was married to Miss Annie Collins, who has borne him two children.

W. E. TRUAX is a native of Racine county, Wisconsin. He has for twelve years held responsible positions on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and since the 16th of August, 1881, has been Station Agent at Little Falls. Before his engagement with this road, he was on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids, and Northern line.

LOUIS VASALY, a native of the Canton of Ticino, Italy, was born on the 14th of November, 1823. He graduated at the Ticino College at the age of twenty-one years, and also graduated at the College of Pharmacy. Until 1863, he was engaged





in a drug store in his native country. In the latter year he came to America, entered the Tenth United States Infantry and served as Hospital Steward, and afterwards as a private soldier. At the close of the term he was commissioned Post-trader and Postmaster at Fort Ripley, where he remained for two years. Then coming to this town he was for eight years in the drug business. In 1875, he bought the Vasaly House, which he rented for four years, and then took possession himself, and has since conducted it. He was married in Italy, on the 15th of October, 1859, to Miss Frances Ribre. Of ten children, the result of this union, but seven are living.

LEWIS G. WORTHINGTON, a native of Pittsfield, Illinois, was born on the 9th of December, 1854. For a short time he was employed in mercantile establishments, and in 1875, came to Little Falls. Here he went in partnership with Mr. J. Simmons, but severed his connection with the firm a short time ago.

JOHN WETZEL, a native of Elgin, Illinois, was born in 1856. Soon after his birth, his parents moved to Chicago, and in 1866, came to St. Cloud, where Mr. Wetzel was employed in a drug store. In 1876, the firm of Rhodes and Wetzel was formed, and two years later, their establishment at Little Falls was burned, but immediately rebuilt. In addition to their stock of drugs, they keep a line of furnishing goods, boots, shoes, etc.

## MOTLEY.

### CHAPTER CXLVI.

DESCRIPTIVE ORGANIZATION—VILLAGE OF MOTLEY  
—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Motley embraces all that portion of Morrison county west of the Mississippi river, lying north of township one hundred and thirty-one, and includes an area of about one hundred and ten square miles, most of which is yet unimproved.

The surface is gently undulating, mostly timbered, and contains some excellent pine lands, as well as some of the best tracts of hard wood found in the county. Wild meadow and light brush—almost prairie—make up the balance.

The soil is varied, presenting, on the uplands, the several grades of sandy loam, with occasional tracts of clay loam. The few farms already opened

are sufficient to demonstrate the value of this section as an agricultural district.

In the south central part is Lake Alexander, one of the finest sheets of water in the State. It is about six miles long, and from one to three miles in breadth. It has already attained some distinction as a fishing ground, and the surrounding woodlands as excellent hunting ground. Northwest of Lake Alexander is Fish Trap Lake, a smaller body of water, and north of this, another of moderate size, known as Black Bass Lake, but called by the Indians, Lost Alexander.

Crow Wing river forms the northern, and the Mississippi, the eastern boundary, which, with Fish Trap creek in the west, furnishing an outlet to the first two lakes mentioned, affords ample drainage. With the exception of two or three settlers near Lake Alexander, the population of the township is confined to the village of Motley, to the location and growth of which is due the organization of the town. This town was formerly a part of Green Prairie, but was set apart in 1879, and organized in the spring of that year by the election of the following officers: Supervisors, H. B. Morrison, Chairman, Frank Weston, and J. A. McMillen; Clerk, H. Hawkins; Assessor, J. R. McMillen; Treasurer, H. B. Morrison.

Motley station is in the extreme northwest corner of the town, on the Northern Pacific railroad. This is the only point in Morrison county crossed by this line of road, and the station was established as soon as the road reached here, although no settlers were then within several miles of this point. The position was the most favorable of any for a distributing point for lumbermen's camp supplies, and was established for that purpose. A station and freight house were built, the former of which is still in use. The latter was removed to Aldrich about two years ago, and is now used as a passenger depot, and its place has been filled by a new and larger building. Grain was bought here soon after the station was established, being brought from a great distance and loaded into cars. The first elevator was built about 1874, by Chandler, Fisher, and Waite, of Long Prairie, who still own and operate it. Another was built by Barnes & McGill in the fall of 1879 and is still in operation.

The first depot agent here was T. J. Rothpletz, in 1871. He remained but a short time, and has been followed by two or three others previous to the present agent, H. Hawkins, elsewhere men-



tioned. The buildings of the Railroad Company, in addition to those mentioned, are a section house and water tank.

The village was platted by the Lake Superior and Puget Sound Company, who still own the unsold portion within the village limits.

The oldest settler here is Calvin Priestly, who came as employee of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in the fall of 1872. A few others came within the next two years, but there was no extensive settlement or improvement until the arrival of H. B. Morrison, to whose energy Motley is chiefly indebted for its present growth and prosperity.

A Post-office was established in 1874, and William Johnson appointed Postmaster. He was succeeded by J. A. McMillen, the present incumbent, in April, 1879.

In the spring of 1878, H. B. Morrison built a lumber mill here, which furnished employment for quite a number of men, and was the means of inducing several families to settle here. During the summer, a school was opened for the benefit of the few children then here, and Mrs. Frank Severance was employed as teacher, being paid by subscription. The following year a school district was organized, and a house built, mainly by subscription, and the school taught that year was supported by funds mostly obtained in the same manner. The house is still in use, but a new and more commodious one is in contemplation.

Early in 1879, Rev. S. A. Gnerut, a Methodist clergyman, commenced preaching at Motley, and since the close of that year, weekly service has been maintained. A small class was also formed during the first year of Mr. Gnerut's ministry.

In all matters effecting the growth of the place, Mr. Morrison has been a leader, and yet fortune has not always smiled upon his endeavors. His first mill was burned a few months after completion, and with it perished one of the workmen who was sleeping in the building, and not awakened until too late. Mr. Morrison suffered heavily by this fire, but, nothing daunted, at once commenced the erection of a much larger mill which is now in operation. It is driven by steam, and has a daily capacity of over forty thousand, running ten hours, and has cut eighty-two thousand in a run of twenty-two hours. Lath, pickets, etc., are also manufactured in large quantities, and a force of from seventy-five to one hundred men are employed in and about the mill.

In May, 1881, Mr. Morrison opened a brick-yard, in which about twenty men are employed, and expects to increase the business another season, employing a much larger force.

About a mile from the village, another lumber mill was started in 1881, by Curtis & Lawrence. It is also a steam mill, with a daily capacity of twenty-five thousand, besides which lath and shingles are manufactured, employing about twenty-five men.

Motley has three good stores, two hotels, and is fairly supplied with shops and artisans, and from the wilderness of a few years ago has grown a village already numbering about three hundred, and with the surrounding country just developing its agricultural wealth, its continued prosperity is not a matter of doubt.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WALTER H. BENSON is a native of Stowe, Vermont, and was born on the 31st of March, 1853. When five years of age he came west with his parents, locating in Minneapolis. The year following, they moved to Clearwater, Wright county, where the family now reside, Walter making his home with them until coming to this place in April, 1878. He has since been in the employ of H. B. Morrison, having the general supervision of his lumber yard at this place. On the 15th of April, 1875, he was married to Miss Viola Phillips, of Clearwater, who died in the same place on the 19th of June, 1880.

OWEN DAVIS, a native of Mercer county, Ohio, was born on the 18th of May, 1837. Resided there until the 2d of September, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, of the Thirty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In February, 1862, he was detailed, and some time after, transferred to the United States Signal Corps, serving three years. On receiving his discharge he returned to his former home in Ohio, remaining till September, 1866. Then removed to Mason City, Iowa; was engaged one year at farming, and afterwards employed at his trade, that of carpenter and joiner. In December, 1879, he came to his present farm, which is situated in Todd county, adjoining the village of Motley. He devotes the greater portion of his time to mechanical work. On the 17th of November, 1864, he was married to Mary E. Stumberry, of Mercer county, Ohio. They have three children.

HENRY HAWKINS, the first Town Clerk, and also Station Agent at Motley, is a native of Canada, his





birth dating on the 18th of February, 1851. He came to Minnesota in 1871, since which time he has been in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. For about fourteen months he was at New York Mills, and one month at Moorhead, from which latter place he came here in October, 1877. Was united in marriage with Miss Julia Walker, of New York Mills, in November, 1877. Their union has been blessed with one child.

PETER KNUDSON is a son of Danish parents, and was born on the 12th of February, 1851, near the city of Odense, on the Island of Tinnen. At the age of fourteen years he left school and entered a mercantile house as clerk, and three years later, was employed in the general merchandise store of C. F. Bang, Consul of the Netherlands, as clerk and book-keeper. When nearly eighteen years old, he voluntarily entered the Danish army, serving fifteen months, and rising to the rank of corporal. On leaving the army, he was engaged in the retail trade about one year, and came to America, in 1871. He arrived in Chicago on the 15th of June, and at once found employment with Budlong and Brother, as time-keeper. A year or two later, he removed to Mason City, Iowa, where he was employed as clerk and book-keeper by three of the leading business houses of that place. On the 15th of October, 1880, he came to Motley, where he has since been engaged as book-keeper by H. B. Morrison. Mr. Knudsen was married to Miss Olive Houston, of Arena, Wisconsin, on the 29th of October, 1873.

HENRY B. MORRISON, to whose energy is due the actual development of Motley, is a native of Vermont, and was born on the 29th of November, 1843. Until 1850, the family lived at different points along the Vermont Central railroad, then removed to Cambridge, New York, where the father of our subject had contracted to build a railroad bridge across the Hoosac river, at Eagle Bridge, after completing which the family returned to Vermont, stopping a short time at Waterbury. In July, 1851, they removed to Bedford, Indiana, the father still continuing in railroad bridge work. After a year in Indiana, most of which time the family suffered from fever and ague, Mr. Morrison, Sen., determined upon seeking a more congenial clime, and removed to Minnesota, arriving at St. Paul on the 2d of August, 1852, soon after which he purchased property in St. Anthony, and about a year later, removed to the west side, where he

bought a farm, now included in the city limits of Minneapolis. In 1861, the subject of our sketch removed to Clearwater, Wright county, where he remained till March, 1878, when he came to his present location, at Motley, Morrison county. The condition of the place at the time of his arrival, and the changes resulting from his enterprise, are mentioned in the history of the town. On the 9th of February, 1865, Mr. Morrison became a member of Clearwater Lodge No. 28, A. F. and A. M., and on the 29th of November, 1866, became a Royal Arch Mason, uniting with the Chapter at St. Cloud. His attention has been devoted to lumbering since his removal to Clearwater in 1866, operating a steam saw mill there, from which he took the engine and machinery for his first mill at Motley. Miss Ida A. Benson, daughter of George B. Benson, of Clearwater, became the wife of Mr. Morrison, the marriage occurring on the 29th of October, 1868.

S. A. McMILLEN is a native of Ohio, and his wife was born in Vermont. They removed to Iowa in its early days, and Mr. McMillen owned a farm and also kept a trading post on the ground now occupied by Mason City. Twice they were driven to the necessity of flight during the Indian outbreak of 1862, leaving everything to the mercy of the plunderers. They came to Motley, and in July, 1879, Mr. McMillen opened a general merchandise store; has a separate hardware department, in which is a tin-shop, operated by his son, Charles W., who was born in Mason City, on the 8th of March, 1858, and came here in August, 1880. He had previously worked at the tinner's trade for four years in Iowa and Nebraska, and is now doing a good business here.

DAVID J. WILSON, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, was born on the 26th of August, 1856. When seventeen years of age he came with his parents to Jamesville, Minnesota. In 1879, he went to Mission Creek, Pine county, and was employed one winter in a lumber mill at that place. In the spring of 1880, Mr. Wilson came to Motley, and has since been engaged, first as sawyer, and later as setter, in the lumber mill of H. B. Morrison.

FRANKLIN L. WILSON was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, on the 2d of October, 1851. When he was three years old, his parents removed to Bremer county, Iowa, where his father died in January, 1866. In March, 1881, Mr. Wilson came to this place with his mother, now Mrs. I. W. Shaffer,



and was for a time engaged at carpenter work. In the fall of 1881, he built and opened a barber-shop, the first and only one in the place. Miss Susie E. Taylor, of Indiana, became his wife on the 9th of December, 1875.

FRANK WESTON, head sawyer in Morrison's mill, was born in Somerset county, Maine, on the 13th of April, 1841. At the age of sixteen years, he removed to Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming till the 1st of August, 1862. He then enlisted in Company A, of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving till the 21st of October, 1865. Was with General Sully's expedition in Dakota in the summer of 1864, then in Kentucky till the close of the war. In November, 1877, Mr. Weston came to Motley, and the following spring entered the employ of H. B. Morrison. Was married on the 26th of November, 1865, to Miss Catharine Thurston, of Pierce county, Wisconsin, and a native of the same State and county as himself. They have a family of four children.

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## OAKWOOD.

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This town was originally included in Buckman, from which it was detached in the spring of 1881, and a meeting held at the schoolhouse on section twenty-nine, on the 11th of April, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, T. D. Miller, Chairman, A. T. Sandy, and C. D. Hunter; Clerk, John F. Hunter; Assessor, J. Miller; Treasurer, George Ferguson; Justice of the Peace, Henry McNeal; Constable, A. Miller.

The first settler here was John Roach, who came in September, 1874, and settled on section thirty. He was of Irish extraction, and born in Canada. His stay was brief, and he made but little improvement. F. C. Miller, a native of New York, came in the spring of 1876, and located on section thirty-two, where he remained till the spring of 1881, when he removed to his present home, at Rice's Station, Benton county. H. Sondie, of Pennsylvania, settled on section thirty-two, in 1876, and is still a resident of the town. Other early settlers were, T. D. Miller, C. D. Hunter, J. Miller, L. and J. Sondie.

The first school district was organized in August, 1877, and a term taught in J. Sondie's house. The next year a school-house was built

on the southwest corner of section twenty-nine. A Sabbath school was organized in September, 1879, by J. Stewart.

The first child born in the town was Grace Sondie, on the 13th of September, 1876.

The first death was Maud Rachiff, July 7th, 1881.

The first marriage occurred May 22d, 1881, the parties being John Hunter and Laella Sondie.

The town is but sparsely settled, and no extensive improvements are yet noted. The surface is rolling, and covered with an abundant growth of oak, basswood, poplar, birch, pine, tamarack, spruce, and maple timber. It is well watered, and has a rich soil of black loam, with clay subsoil.

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## PARKER.

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This is one of the extreme western towns of Morrison county, and formed part of the town of Green Prairie until detached in 1880.

The surface is gently rolling, and covered with a dense growth of timber, chiefly hardwood, but not wholly destitute of pine. The soil is clay and black loam, and only awaits the labor of the husbandman to produce the most abundant harvest. It is watered by the South Fork of Little Elk river, and its affluents, along which are found extensive tracts of fine marsh land or wild meadow. Several small lakes are found in the town, most of which are well stocked with fish.

About thirty homesteads have already been taken, but no extensive improvements are yet made.

The town was named for its first settler, G. F. Parker, who located on section twelve in 1879. His arrival dates April 17th of that year.

In the spring of 1880, a town organization was effected, the meeting being held at the cabin of J. W. Manbeck, in section twenty-six, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, R. W. Jones, Chairman, H. A. McCrary, and ——— Snow; Clerk, J. W. Manbeck; Assessor, J. W. Jones; Treasurer, G. F. Parker.

In the spring of 1881, a school district was organized, and in a small building erected in section twenty-two, Mrs. Aaron Boyce conducted the first school.

The establishment of a Post-office has just been





secured, located in section fourteen, with D. M. Brooks Postmaster. No post route is established, but Little Falls is named as the place where mail is to be obtained and delivered.

The first child born in the town was Hattie Jones, on the 14th of April, 1880.

The first marriage was in February, 1881, uniting the destinies of Frank Bailey and Miss ——— Ireland.

No death is reported in the town unless it is the as yet mysterious disappearance of Joseph Holstead, who has been missing since July, 1880. Holstead was a single man, and had a claim near Mr. Parker, with whom he was on terms of intimacy. In July, 1881, he visited Little Falls, and is said to have started back to his claim, since which no trace of him has been discovered.

The founder of this town, George F. Parker, is a native of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, where he was born December 26th, 1846. He served one year in the Forty-second Massachusetts Infantry, and nineteen months in the Second Massachusetts Cavalry, five months of which were spent in the Rebel prison at Andersonville. Miss Edith Muir, of Boston, Massachusetts, became his wife in January, 1871. Their infant daughter, Edith, is the third child born in this town.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WINDSOR L. BOYCE was born near Saratoga Springs, New York, on the 23d of August, 1854. When he was but five years old, his mother died and he lived with different families till nine years old, after which time he was dependent upon his own resources. At the age of twelve years he engaged as cabin boy on the ship "Thomas Pope," visited London, Liverpool, and Paris, and returned to America after three years. He was employed on the Erie Canal and on the Lakes till the spring of 1874, when he came to Wright county, Minnesota. The following year he joined Company K, in the Third United States Regular Service, and was sent South during the trouble of 1875, after which he was transferred to Company C, Fourth Cavalry, and sent to the frontier, where he was in several skirmishes with the Indians, and mustered out in February, 1879. He then returned to Wright county, and resided till April, 1881, when he came to his present farm in Parker township. In November, 1879, he was married to Miss Eva L. Travis, a native of New York City. They had one child who died in infancy.

D. M. Brooks, a native of Grant county, Kentucky, was born on the 2d of April, 1828. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in 1862, moved to Indiana, and two years later, to Minnesota. He first located in Hennepin county, about five miles east of Watertown; then, in 1866, purchased a farm in Victor, Wright county, on which he lived till 1880, when he opened a stock farm in Parker township. Mr. Brooks is the present Assessor of this town. Was married in 1858 to Ellen Jane Huff, who has borne nine children, six of whom are living.

JAMES W. MANBECK, one of the organizers of the town of Parker, was born in Harrison county, Ohio, on the 9th of February, 1839. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and attended school in his native place. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, of the One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Was in the Army of the Potomac, and on the 1st of June, 1864, wounded at Cold Harbor, for which he receives a pension. After his discharge, in January, 1865, he returned to his native place and engaged in various occupations until his removal to this State. In 1875, he came to Howard Lake, Wright county, and kept a hotel for four years. Then came to Parker township and located a farm on section six. Miss Elizabeth Tope, a native of Ohio, became his wife in 1865. They have two children, a boy and a girl.

HENRY A. McCrary, a native of Gibson county, Indiana, was born on the 14th of May, 1828. He remained with his parents, attending school and assisting on the farm, till twenty-one years of age. Then moved to Illinois, where he resided on a farm till 1857, when he came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and rented a farm near the present fair grounds. In the fall of the same year, he came to Victor, Wright county, and the following year, returned to Minneapolis, where he was employed in a butcher shop and in the mills, till 1864. Then returned to his native place, and in 1868, to Victor, remaining nine years. Since 1879, he has been a resident of Parker township, and has held the offices of Treasurer and Supervisor. In 1850, he was married to Miss Amanda Hoblitt, who was born in Illinois on the 4th of July, 1831. They have had four children, three of whom are living.



## PIERZ.

## CHAPTER CXLVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—RELIGIOUS—SCHOOLS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Pierz lies in the eastern part of the county, and contains 162 square miles, or 102,400 acres, of which 4,022 are under cultivation. This town is named in honor of Father Pierz, who was mainly instrumental in inducing the present thrifty German settlers to locate here.

The spot presenting the greatest attraction was what has since been known as Rich Prairie. This Prairie lies in the southwest portion of the town, is about three miles wide from west to east, and from seven to eight miles long. The soil is a rich dark loam and very productive. The balance of the town is mostly covered with timber, a portion being heavy pine forests, and as yet, unimproved.

The first settler in this town was T. Elwell, now of Minneapolis, who undertook to build a city near the southwest corner of township forty-one north, range twenty-nine west, on the banks of Skunk river, in 1858. He built a saw-mill and a large and commodious hotel, and sold a large number of town lots. Granite rock is profusely scattered about in this vicinity, and as Mr. Elwell intended the town to be built of this material, he named it "Granite City." His expectations have not been realized, and not a vestige of mill or house remains to mark the spot. Many claims were taken at that time, and settlers commenced laying the foundation for future homes, as the lands were rich and the country beautiful; but the war came, and the people went away, never to return.

In the fall of 1865, Herman J. Billing, a German, went in with his family and spent the winter in the Granite City Hotel. The following spring he took a claim on section eight, township 40, range 30, but did not remain long and is now in Otter Tail county. He was followed to Pierz during that and the following summer, by Christ Virning, William Bergenhausen, Frank Yeager, John Roch, Nicholas Meyer, Reinhart Stumpf, Frank Konen, and others, all settling on Rich Prairie. Since then this portion of the town has been rapidly developed, and the population of Pierz in 1880, was 924 persons.

This town was organized in 1868, and embraced

townships 40 and 41, range 30, but in 1874, townships 40 and 41, range 29, were added, which comprises the present area. The first election was held at the house of Nicholas Meyer, and the following officers chosen: Supervisors, Herman J. Billings, Chairman, John Roch, and Frank Yeager; Clerk, Frank Konen; Treasurer, Christ Virning; Assessor, R. Stumpf; Constable, William Bergenhausen; and Justices of the Peace, Nicholas Meyer and Frank Konen.

The first religious services were held by Father Pierz soon after the first settlers arrived, and he has been followed by Fathers Buch, Paulin, Schneider, Schenck, and the present priest, Father Ignatius.

In 1868, a small church was erected on section eight, which has since given place to a more commodious house of worship. In 1874, a large two-story convent was built near the church. It is the home of eight or ten Sisters, who are employed in teaching the public school, which is also situated near the church. A fine parsonage is also in process of construction.

The first school in the town was taught by Frank Konen in 1868, in the church, then just completed. The district was organized the same year, and the schoolhouse erected in 1870.

District number nineteen was organized in 1877, and a schoolhouse built the same year.

District number twenty-eight was organized in 1880. A good frame school house had been previously built, in which the first school after the organization, was held.

There are two general stores in the township. One is conducted by Blake & Bentfelt, and the other by Frank Yeager.

A saw-mill was built by T. Capser in 1874, on the Skunk river, with a capacity of about two thousand feet per day. Peter H. Berg became a partner in 1876, and a run of stones was added. Mr. Capser has again obtained control of the mill, which has been much improved, and a fifteen horse-power engine recently put in.

Pierz Post-office was established in 1873, at the house of Frank Konen. Mr. Konen held the office for three years when James Hall was appointed. He was succeeded by George Whitney in 1876, and the name changed to Rich Prairie. Since the 30th of December, 1878, Peter W. Blake has been Postmaster, with the office at his store on section eight.





## BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM H. BARNHART was born on the 8th of April, 1837. At the age of seventeen years, he visited Michigan, but a few months later located in Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in the lumber business on the Alleghany river. In 1862, he enlisted in the One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, was engaged in the battles of The Wilderness, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, and many others, serving till the close of the war. In 1868, he visited Minnesota, and in 1870, brought his family and located at Little Falls. Three years later he came to the town of Pierz, where he has since lived. Mr. Barnhart was married on the 4th of July, 1867, to Miss Effie L. Crippen, who has borne him three children.

LORENZO BARNHART was born in Greenbush, Rensselaer county, New York, on the 10th of April, 1840. He resided for a time in Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in farming and also in the lumber business on the Alleghany river. He came to Minnesota in 1873, located at Belle Prairie, Morrison county, and was engaged in the pinery and on the farm for a few seasons. He came to his present farm in 1875, and on the 11th of December, 1878, was married to Miss Sarah A. Stivers. They have two children.

OTTO BOLSTER was born in Bavaria on the 18th of April, 1828. He learned the wood-turner's trade at which he worked until coming to America, in about 1856. For four years he resided in Iowa county, Wisconsin, then, until 1869, was engaged in farming in Dane county. In the latter year he came to his present farm, and at the second election held in the town, was elected Treasurer and Supervisor, which offices he held two terms each. On the 5th of February, 1861, he was married to Miss Mary Honer; they have had seven children, five of whom are living.

LEWIS BERG was born in the Rhine province, Prussia, on the 15th of July, 1849. When he was an infant, his parents came to America, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he resided until 1868. Then, coming to this town, he lived with his parents, who had previously settled here, and was a portion of the time engaged in the woods. In 1872, he came to his present farm, and in December of the following year, was married to Miss B. Roch. They have six children, five of whom are living.

PETER W. BLAKE, a native of McHenry county, Illinois, was born on the 18th of January, 1846. He

learned the shoemaker's trade, and in 1871, opened a boot and shoe store in his native place. In 1876, the firm of Blake & Bentfelt was formed, and the following year came to Pierz and opened a general merchandise store. Mr. Blake has since given his entire attention to their largely increasing business. On the 14th of January, 1867, he was married to Miss Christiana Miller. Of seven children born to them, six are living.

WILHELM BERG was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 27th of December, 1823. For five years he was engaged at the potter's trade, and also served in the army five years. He came to America in 1853, located in Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1869, came to this town, purchased his present farm and has since made it his home. Was elected Supervisor and held the office three years. Miss Mary Fierneg became his wife on the 14th of February, 1849. They have had nine children, and eight are living.

J. M. CLARK was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of March, 1834. He resided in that State, and was engaged in different occupations until 1870. Then, coming to Minnesota he located on a farm in Morrison county, remained two years, and in 1873, came to his present farm. On the 26th of August, 1858, he was married to Miss Rebecca L. Hess. They have had six children, and five are living.

N. DAHMEN, SEN. was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 23d of February, 1824. He was employed in the iron works in his native country, working principally at building, puddling, and heating furnaces. Was in the Prussian army from 1842 to 1844, and came to America, locating in Danville, Pennsylvania, in 1849. Soon after, moving to Greensborough, he was employed as a mason, and engaged in building railroad bridges. In about 1858, he came to Stearns county, Minnesota, and ten years later, to his present farm. He is Chairman of the board of Supervisors. In April, 1853, he was married to Miss H. Setzberger. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living.

NICOLAS DAHMEN, JR. was born in Greensborough, Pennsylvania, in 1853. When he was four years of age, his parents came to Stearns county, Minnesota, where he attended school till 1868. Then the family came to this town, and Nicolas purchased his present farm in 1874, and has since made it his home. He was married on the 4th of February, 1874, to Miss Mary Stumpf. They



have had three children, two of whom are living.

WILLIAM GRELL, a native of Prussia, was born on the 4th of November, 1836. When sixteen years of age, he came with his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1868. Then, came to his present farm, and has been Town Clerk four years, Justice of the Peace six years, and held several other town offices. Miss Gertrude Virning became his wife on the 31st of January, 1861. They have seven children.

JOHN GROSS, a native of Prussia, was born in November, 1817. He came to America in 1845, spent one year in Chicago, and came to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged on a farm for twenty years. Then coming to Minnesota, he lived in Stearns county until 1878, and came to his present farm in this town. He married on the 2d of February, 1841, Miss Anna Patars. They have had ten children, eight of whom are living.

GEORGE HOFMANN, one of the early settlers of this town, was born on the 30th of May, 1827, in Germany. He came to New York City in 1852, and was employed in a factory for a time, then opened a grocery store, and in 1868, came to his present farm. He was married in 1851, to Miss Mary Dillinger. They have had five children, three of whom are living.

GEORGE F. HOFFMAN was born in New York City, on the 12th of November, 1854. He was employed in his native city, in a mustard factory, and also at the moulder's trade. In 1869, he came to this town, resided with his parents until 1875, when he took a claim, but soon gave it up and purchased his present farm. Was married in 1875, to Miss Frances Roch, who has borne him three children, two of whom are living.

JOSEPH HENNEN was born in Germany on the 29th of July, 1847. His parents came to America, locating at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, when he was but a child. At the age of sixteen, he commenced learning the carpenter trade, working until 1871. Then coming to Stearns county, Minnesota, he was engaged on a farm and at his trade for two years. For about eighteen months he resided in Minneapolis, and in 1875, came to this town, purchased a farm, and has since made it his home. Married, on the 10th of June, 1872, Miss Catharine Gross. Of four children, which they have had, but two are living.

FRANK KONEN was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 27th of October, 1829. He at-

tended school at Dusseldorf until nineteen years old, then served eighteen months in the Prussian Infantry. He came to America, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1852, where he was engaged in teaching school, and also filled the office of Town Clerk for several terms. He came to his present farm in 1868, taught the first school in the town, was first Postmaster, and also first Town Clerk, holding the latter office nearly every year since. On the 24th of July, 1853, he was married to Miss Barbara Stumpf. They have had eleven children, and nine are living.

JACOB KINGEN, deceased, was a native of the province of Rhine, Prussia, his nativity dating the 7th of April, 1823. He learned the blacksmith trade, and worked at it in the old country until coming to America in 1858. For eleven years he resided in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged at his trade, then came to this town and located on the farm where his family are now living. He opened the first blacksmith shop in the town, and was engaged in that business at the time of his death, on the 16th of January, 1880. On the 2d of February, 1852, he was married to Miss Catharine Brayer, who has had eight children, six of whom are living.

JOHN MCGREGOR was born in the parish of St. Martin, Scotland, on the 17th of August, 1835. He served an apprenticeship of seven years at the blacksmith trade, and came to America in 1854. He was engaged at his trade in Madison, Wisconsin, until 1877, then came to this town and opened his present shop. Mr. McGregor has had the contract for carrying the mail from Rice's station to this place since 1878, but employs a carrier. On the 11th of March, 1854, he was married to Miss Margaret Kneeland. They have had nine children, and eight are living.

NICHOLAS MEYER, one of the old settlers of this town, was born in Prussia, on the 12th of February, 1838. For a short time he was employed in a flouring mill in his native country. In 1860, he came to America, located in Dane county, Wisconsin, and seven years later, came to his present farm in this town. Mr. Meyer has held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, and County Commissioner, each for several terms. Was married on the 14th of November, 1861, to Miss Catharine Koch. Of eight children born to them, six are living.

P. H. NEUMAN, a native of Troy, New York, was born on the 25th of April, 1845. When he





was young his parents moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where he lived until twenty-one years of age, then was employed on farms in that vicinity until 1874. In the latter year he came to this town, purchased his present farm, and has since made it his home. Was married to Miss Gertrude Dippen on the 9th of August, 1881. They have six children.

PETER NEUMAN, one of the early settlers on the east side of Skunk river, is a native of the province of Rhine, Prussia, his nativity dating the 9th of January, 1820. He learned the millwright trade of his father in the old country, at which he was employed until coming to America in 1842. After working at his trade, and also farming, in Rensselaer county, New York, he came, in 1853, to Madison, Wisconsin, where he held the office of Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and Deputy Sheriff eight years. He came to this town in 1874, has been Probate Judge one term, and is at present Justice of the Peace. Mr. Neuman is a man greatly respected by all who know him. He was married on the 16th of November, 1838, to Miss Margaret Clemens. Of eleven children born to them, but five are living.

JOHN NEUMAN, a native of Rensselaer county, New York, was born on the 23d of November, 1845. He learned the carpenter's trade, and lived with his parents until twenty-one years of age. Then was employed at his trade in the vicinity of Madison, Wisconsin, until coming to this town in 1874. During the first two years of his residence here he was employed at his trade, and also carried on his farm. On the 25th of September, 1863, he was married to Miss Mary Lambarty. Six children have been born, and five are living.

JOHN PREIMESBERGER, a native of Germany, was born on the 28th of May, 1856. In 1870, he came to this town with his parents. He has a farm on section fourteen, but as yet, resides beneath the parental roof. On the 28th of November, 1876, he was married to Miss Mary Pedher, who has borne him four children.

JOHN ROCH, a pioneer of this town, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 2d of May, 1813. He came to America in 1847, located in Wisconsin, and was engaged in different parts of the State, until 1866. Then, coming to this town, he purchased a farm and has since made it his home. Mr. Roch was a member of the first board of Supervisors. He was married in 1852, to Miss Clara Hubst. They have seven children.

MICHAEL SCHMIDTBAUER, a native of Bavaria, was born on the 1st of September, 1837. He came to America, and at the age of fifteen years, to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he devoted his time to farming, and removed to his present place in 1879. He was married on the 11th of September, 1862, to Miss Theresa Faltermeir. They have had eleven children, and nine are living.

REINHART STUMPF, a pioneer of the town, was born in the province of Rhine, Prussia, on the 1st of November, 1827. He came to America in 1849, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he was employed at farming until 1867. He then came to this town and took his present homestead, which was in a wild state, but is now under good cultivation. Mr. Stumpf was the first Assessor of the town, and has also held other local offices. On the 23d of May, 1853, he was married to Miss Adelheid Hnpsch. There have been seven children, five of whom are living.

JOHN STUMPF, a native of Rhenish Prussia, was born on the 25th of December, 1837. His father died when John was quite young, and at the age of twelve years he came with his mother to America, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin. For five years he was employed in a brewery, and in 1868, came to this town. Since taking his farm he has made many substantial improvements. In 1877, Mr. Stumpf was elected to the House of Representatives from this district; has also been Supervisor for four years. On the 18th of July, 1861, he married Miss Maggie Dresen, who died on the 20th of May, 1865, leaving three children. On the 1st of May, 1866, he married Mrs. R. Koch, who has borne him seven children.

REV. IGNATIUS WESSELENG, O. S. B., was born in the Parish of Meppen, now a province of the German Empire, on the 16th of November, 1849. He studied at the gymnasium at Meppen until 1870, then came to America, joined the Benedictines at St. Vincent, Pennsylvania, and studied two years. He came to St. John's College, in Stearns county, Minnesota, and was ordained on the 10th of August, 1875. Then sent to St. Augusta, in the same county, to take charge of the parishes of St. Augusta and St. Wendel, and the missions of Kimball Prairie and Clearwater. In October, 1875, he was located at St. Wendel as a resident priest, still having charge of the two latter missions. The year of 1877, he was an assistant at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and the following year came to his present charge as resident priest.



FRANK WISE was born in Austria on the 17th of July, 1838. He came to America and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1853, where he was engaged in farming. In 1874, he came to the town of Pierz and purchased a farm, which has since been his home. He has been Justice of the Peace for two years. Was married to Miss L. Dallmeier, who has borne him eleven children.

## SWAN RIVER.

### CHAPTER CXLVIII.

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This town was formerly included in Two Rivers, except a strip two miles in width on the north, which was detached from the town of Little Falls. Its name is from a stream of moderate size flowing in an easterly direction through the town, affording an outlet to Swan Lake. This lake was named by the Chippewas, Wabazin Zagiagan, the first name being the Chippewa for Swan.

The first settlers of whom we have any knowledge were, George Rice, who settled on section two, in 1856, and Hiram Sanders, who took a claim in section eight the same year. Samuel Lee, now of Little Falls, settled on section eight in 1857. Transient settlers may have come previous to this date, as the opposite side of the Mississippi river was settled as early as 1849. The oldest living settler here is James Green, a native of Somersetshire, England, who came to Minnesota in 1855, locating at Little Falls, and to his present farm, formerly owned by Samuel Lee, in the spring of 1858. With the exception of his term of service in the late civil war, this has since been his home.

Henry Meyers settled here in 1865, taking a homestead in section eight. He is a native of New York, born in 1811, served in the Florida war, came to Minnesota in 1838, and was three years in the army during the war of the Rebellion.

Robert Lewis, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in 1822, came to Minnesota in 1855, and to his present home in Swan River in the fall of 1865.

Charles Gilpatrick, born in the state of Maine in 1839, came to Minnesota in 1865, after having served a term in the late war, and located in this town, which is still his home.

The County Commissioners, in response to a pe-

tition presented by the legal voters of this district in December, 1874, set off the territory now comprising this town, and on the 31st of January following, a special town meeting was held, and the following officers chosen: Supervisors, F. X. Ladoux, Chairman, Hans C. Hansen, and Milton Cahorn; Clerk, H. S. Clyde; Justices of the Peace, F. S. Flint and J. Mason. No Assessor or Treasurer were chosen until the regular annual meeting in the spring, when F. S. Flint was elected to the former, and Henry Coe to the latter office.

The first birth occurred July 2d, 1859, in the family of Samuel Lee. The child, George Silas Lee, is now a member of his father's family at Swan river, the old village site on the east bank of the Mississippi, in the town of Little Falls, and is interested with his father in the mill now building in this town on the Swan river.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

OSCAR L. CLYDE is a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, born on the 20th of May, 1843. He came with his parents to Iowa when about eight years of age. They located near Cedar Rapids, where our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, and attended school. On the 18th of July, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, of the Eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry; was taken prisoner at the battle of Shiloh, and after being discharged, participated in Grant's campaign and siege of Vicksburg. He was mustered out in Alabama on the 9th of October, 1865, and after visiting his home in Iowa, came to Minnesota, remaining but one year. In 1876, he again came to this State, and located his present farm, having made it his home ever since. Miss Abby A. Stevens, a native of Somerset county, Maine, became the wife of Mr. Clyde in 1863. They have had six children, five of whom are living.

HENRY S. CLYDE is also a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and was born on the 5th of November, 1845. He came with his parents to Davenport, Iowa, where his father died. His mother died in Buchanan county, in the same State, in 1855, leaving our subject an orphan at the age of ten years. He improved all opportunities afforded him to attend school, till the breaking out of the war, when he went to Marion, to enlist, but on account of poor health, was not accepted. On the 18th of March, 1862, he went to Dubuque, was accepted, and enlisted in Company H, of the Thirteenth United States Infantry. Par-





ticipated in many important battles and was mustered out on the 18th of March, 1865. After his discharge, he was in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, for a short time, engaged in contracting for the digging of oil wells. Came to Minnesota the same year (1865), and was engaged in teaching school and at other occupations, till coming to his farm in section twenty, Swan River township, in 1871. In 1878, he removed to his present farm in section eighteen. Since his residence in the town Mr. Clyde had held the offices of Town Clerk, Assessor, and Chairman of the board of Supervisors. He has been twice married, first, in 1868, to Miss Emma Mapes, who died in February, 1877. His present wife's maiden name was Susan Thompson. She has borne him seven children, five of whom are living.

DURA CORBIN was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on the 9th of August, 1842. When he was but four years of age, his parents moved to Wisconsin, and ten years after, to Oberlin, Ohio, our subject receiving his education in the two latter places. In 1859, the family came to Winona county, Minnesota, and in 1864, Mr. Corbin enlisted at La Crosse, in Company I, of the Eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Participated in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, and was afterwards detailed as hospital Steward. Was mustered out at Madison, Wisconsin, in September, 1865, and after visiting his father at La Crosse, came to St. Charles, Minnesota, where he was employed as clerk in a store. He owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in this place, and has been Town Clerk since the first election held in the town. Was married in 1867, to Miss Minnie R. Burrill, of New York. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

JAMES GREEN, the oldest living settler of this town, is a native of Somersetshire, England. When about fourteen years of age, he came to America and was engaged in various occupations in New York, until coming west. He first came to Detroit, Michigan, and for two years was employed on the steamboat line running between Buffalo and Chicago. Then coming to Minnesota, he worked at his trade (carpenter) and in the butcher business in Little Falls till 1858, when he came to Swan River and located in section eight, remaining until the breaking out of the war. In January, 1862, he enlisted at Fort Snelling in the Second Minnesota Battery. Was soon after sent to Missouri, and participated in the battle of Alexandria. He

was discharged on account of injuries sustained by a fall while in the service, for which he receives a pension. Returned to his farm after being discharged, and has since made it his home. Miss Amelia Bailey, a native of Missouri, became his wife in 1868. They have four children, two boys and two girls.

JOHN HAMLIN, one of the organizers of Swan River township, was born in Canada East, on the 12th of October, 1837. He resided in his native place till eight years old, when his parents came to Northampton, Massachusetts, where our subject learned the blacksmith trade. In 1855, he came to Little Falls, Minnesota, and was engaged at his trade during winters and piloting on the Mississippi in summer. Since 1868, Swan River has claimed Mr. Hamlin as a resident, he being engaged in the cultivation of his farm. Was united in marriage in 1855, with Miss Zeoa Young, who was born in Vermont. Of eleven children born to them, six are living, all boys.

ROBERT LEWIS was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of September, 1822. He received an education in his native county, and learned the stonemason's trade. Came west and located on a farm in Indiana, in 1850, and five years after, to Scott county, Minnesota. On the 15th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Was in Sully's expedition in 1863, then sent south to Murfreesboro', and participated in several active engagements. In August, 1865, he was mustered out at Fort Snelling and came to this place, locating on his present farm in section eight. In 1852, Miss Elizabeth Miller, of Indiana, became his wife. This union has been blessed with one daughter, who is now married.

CHARLES W. LAKIN, a native of Washington county, Maine, was born on the 2d of June, 1831. He received his education and learned the carpenter trade in his native State. Came to Minnesota in 1867, and located in Bellevue township, remained two years, and came to his present farm, which is situated in the fractional part of Swan River, section thirty-two. Mr. Lakin has held the office of Supervisor several terms, and been a member of the board of County Commissioners for the past three years. He was united in marriage with Mary Ann Muncy, a native of Maine, in 1858. She has borne him seven children, six of whom are living.

GEORGE W. MUNCY is a native of Maine, born



on the 14th of March, 1846. When he was an infant, his parents removed to the city of St. Stephens, New Brunswick, where our subject was reared, following farming and the lumber business. When he was twenty years old, he went to California, remaining till 1871, when he came to Minnesota and purchased his present farm, which is located in section twenty-nine, the fractional part of Swan River township. He did not remove here, however, till December, 1874, since which time his parents have both died. In December, 1874, the marriage of Mr. Muncy and Miss Ermina Goodwin took place. The Union has been blessed with two daughters.

NEIL M. O'DONNELL was born in Mayo county, Ireland, in 1817. He remained with his parents until their death, when he came to America. Coming directly to Vermont, in 1836, he was engaged in various employments, then went to New York and resided on a farm four years. After which time, till the breaking out of the war, he was in Wisconsin. On the 31st of December, 1863, he enlisted in Company D, of the Second Wisconsin Cavalry; was sent to Missouri, and participated in several skirmishes. In November, 1865, he was mustered out at Austin, Texas; returned to Wisconsin, and in November, 1872, came to this place and located his present farm in section eighteen. In 1847, Miss Rose Stevens, of Ireland, became his wife. They have had nine children, eight of whom are living; five girls and three boys.

LEVI J. SMITH was born in Johnson county, Iowa, on the 14th of July, 1844. In 1859, his father moved to Kansas, where our subject resided till August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company H, of the Eighth Missouri Home Guards, under Captain Hill. At the end of his term of service, (seven months) he re-enlisted in Company D, of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Was in the battles of Fort Wayne, Pea Ridge, Fayetteville and several others, and was mustered out on the 17th of October, 1865. Then, until coming to Minnesota, he was engaged in farming in Miami county, Kansas. Came to Howard Lake, Wright county, in May, 1874, and to Swan River township, in 1878, since which time he has given his attention to farming during the summers, and lumbering in winter. Mr. Smith's mother died when he was but eight years old, and his father now resides in Missouri.

HENRY VANZILE is a native of Ontario county, New York, born on the 13th of March, 1826.

Since the age of fourteen years he has been dependent upon his own resources, engaged in farming and other occupations. On the 24th of April, 1861, he enlisted at Waterloo in Company C, of the Thirty-third New York Volunteer Infantry. Was wounded in the Seven Days Fight, on the 29th of June, 1862, taken to Libby prison, and the following August, exchanged, after which he participated in the battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg. At the end of his term of service, (June, 1863) he was discharged, and in August of the same year, re-enlisted; was in several active engagements and mustered out on the 20th of July, 1865. After living in New York several years, he came to Minnesota in 1873, and located in Green Prairie, Morrison county, for two years, then came to his present farm. Mr. Vanzile has been married twice; first to Miss Mary Anderson, who died on the 2d of June, 1870. His present wife was Mrs. Helen Brasie, a native of Ontario county, New York, to whom he was married in October, 1870. He has a family of five children, four girls and one boy.

## TWO RIVERS.

### CHAPTER CXLIX.

DESCRIPTIVE—FIRST SETTLERS—ORGANIZATION—  
FIRST THINGS—MILLS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Two Rivers is one of the extreme southern towns of Morrison county west of the Mississippi, which river marks its eastern boundary. The surface is undulating, with light soil near the river. Along the eastern part prairie and light brush land are found, which changes in the central and western part to heavy timber, and the soil from light to dark rich loam.

The first settler in the town is believed to be William Trask, a native of Kennebec county, Maine, who settled here in 1861, and died at the old homestead in section five, in the year 1876, and was buried in Bellevue cemetery. Several members of the family are still residents of the town. Jacob Thrasher, of German birth, settled in section seventeen in 1865, and has since made this town his home.

Nicholas Kinzer, also a native of Germany, came here in 1864, locating on section twenty, where he still resides.





John and Jacob Betzoldt, brothers, and of German birth, settled here in 1864.

Calvin A. Tuttle, born in Connecticut in 1811, settled here in 1867, and is still living on his original location in section eight. Mr. Tuttle came to Minnesota in 1838, and is frequently mentioned in these pages, having been intimately associated with the settlement of this valley.

The town of Two Rivers derives its name from Two River, a stream flowing through its limits and mingling its waters with those of the Mississippi. The town organization was authorized by the County Commissioners, at a meeting of the Board on the 5th of September, 1865. Following are the officers chosen at the first election, held at the residence of William Trask, Sen., September 20th, 1865: Supervisors, George Borman, Chairman, Charles Austin, and John Betzoldt; Clerk, Aaron Canfield; Treasurer, William Trask, Sen.; Justices of the Peace, Alexander D. Cash, and Nicholas Kinzer; Constables, Allen Blanchard, and Jacob Thranner.

The town originally embraced about two and one-half townships, but was reduced to its present size by the organization of the town of Elmdale, in the spring of 1881, by which over half the original territory was detached.

The first school was taught in the dwelling house of John Betzoldt in the fall of 1866; the next was in a log school house in section twenty.

In the same section, a log building long ago served as a church for the Catholics, and in it the first religious exercises were conducted by Rev. Father Buch.

The first marriage ceremony was performed in February, 1867, the contracting parties being John Bockuech and Susan Simon. Mr. Bockuech died June 26th of that year, and was among the first, if not the first death in the town.

The first white child born in the town, was John Thranner, whose birth dates July 27th, 1865.

There are two saw mills owned by C. A. & C. J. Tuttle, and are the first built in the town.

A flouring mill has recently been built by Captain Robert B. Young & Son, which, with the lumber mills mentioned, represents the milling interests of the town.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

HENRY ARMSTRONG, a native of Holland, was born in March, 1818. He came to America and located in Bellevue, Morrison county, in about

1856. He learned the carpenter trade and worked at it in connection with farming until coming to Two Rivers in 1866. Mr. Armstrong has a well improved farm, about eighty acres of which are under cultivation. Since his residence here, he has held the office of Supervisor several years, and Assessor one year. Was general agent for several different harvesters, self-binders, and threshing machines, a number of years. He was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Frey, of Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 2d of May, 1827. Of ten children born to them, but seven are living.

GEORGE BORMAN, a native of Hocking county, Ohio, was born on the 13th of May, 1812. When he was an infant his parents removed to Columbus, where he resided until twenty-four years of age, attending school and partly learning the carpenter's trade. He came to Bellevue, Morrison county, in an early day, and to his present farm in 1866. Mr. Borman was the first Chairman of the board of Supervisors, for two years was Assessor, and has also held the office of Town Treasurer. In 1830, he was married to Miss Ann King, who bore him six children, three of whom are now living. She died in 1849. In 1851, he married his second wife, Miss Margaret Cochran, of Ohio. Mr. Borman had two sons in the civil war; one died in Andersonville prison, after serving four years, and the other was in the service six months.

FRANKLIN PIERCE FARROW was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 28th of March, 1857. His father was one of the pioneers of Bellevue and Green Prairie. In 1866, Mr. Farrow came to Two Rivers, and since his residence here, has been engaged in various occupations, coming to his farm only a few years since. In 1877, Miss Jennie Muncy, of Aroostook county, Maine, became his wife. They have three children, two girls and one boy.

ISAIAH LEMUEL FOSTER was born in New Brunswick, in 1832. When he was quite young, his mother died, and his father moved to Fredericton. At the age of twelve years he left home, and by his own exertions obtained a fair education. For a time before coming to Minnesota, he was engaged in farming and the lumber business, and in 1861, came to this State. Mr. Foster built the Pacific House in St. Cloud, and had charge of it until 1867, when he came to this township, purchased a farm in section two, and has since made it his home. In 1860, he was married to Miss



Mary A. Estabrook. They have not been blessed with children of their own, but have adopted three.

JOHN GEORGE GEISSEL was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 5th of April, 1842. In 1851, his parents came to America, locating in Michigan. When Mr. Geissel was seventeen years of age he went to Louisiana, and was engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi river. In May, 1862, he was drafted in New Orleans, in the Confederate army; was in the siege of Corinth, but in the second engagement at the latter place, escaped, and joined the Third Ohio Independent Battery. He participated in the battle of La Grange, Siege of Vicksburg, and Nashville, Tennessee; was also in the march with Sherman to Atlanta. In July, 1865, he was mustered out at Cleveland, Ohio, and came to Stearns county, Minnesota, where his father had resided since 1856. In 1870, he was elected Sheriff of the county, and afterward re-elected, but in 1876, resigned, and removed to this town. Here, under the firm name of Geissel and Zeir, there is a ten thousand dollar stock of general merchandise, and also a flouring mill. Mr. Geissel has been County Commissioner since 1879, and was Chairman one year. In 1858, Miss Rosina Utsch, of Missouri, became his wife. They have had eight children; four boys and two girls are living.

MICHAEL FRANK GESSNER was born in Baden, Germany, on the 4th of April, 1845. He came with his parents to America in 1849, and ten years later, moved to Scioto county, Ohio, where, with his father, he was employed on the canal and in the mines until twenty-two years of age. On the 4th of October, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, of the One hundred and ninety second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Titus. Was mustered out on the 3d of July, 1865, and returned to his former home in Ohio. In 1866, he came to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and the following year, to section ten of this town. Mr. Gessner was united in marriage with Miss Mary Weyrauch, of St. Louis, in 1867. They have seven children, four boys and three girls.

ELIJAH DICKEY GOODWIN was born near the village of Truro, Nova Scotia, on the 12th of January, 1835. He received a good common school education and was employed in the gold mines of his native province until coming to Minnesota in 1868. He lived in St. Paul about two years, and was employed at the carpenter trade, which he learned in his native town. He purchased a farm

in the town of Swan River, and after living on it about seven years, removed to his present farm in section one, Two Rivers. Mr. Goodwin was married to Miss Mary Ann Smith, of London, in 1872. They have five children, three girls and two boys.

CALHOUN HAYS was born in Gilmer county, West Virginia, on the 12th of June, 1841. He lived on his father's plantation until coming to Sauk Rapids, receiving a good education. His father was a Congressman, also a member of the Constitutional Convention, and was elected State Senator for several terms. In 1857, the subject of this sketch was appointed Receiver in the Land Office at Sauk Rapids, and it was he who was first to improve the water power at the mouth of the Sauk river. He resided at Little Falls for a time, and while there held the offices of County Attorney and Register of Deeds, each for two terms. In 1867, he came to his present farm, and is now Court Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk, Notary Public, and Insurance and Real Estate Agent. In 1863, he was married to Miss Lavinia H. Lambert, of Maine. They have nine children, six girls and three boys.

SAMUEL WILLARD MUNCY was born in Washington county, Maine, on the 17th of April, 1838. When he was an infant, his parents moved to New Brunswick, where he attended school. In 1866, he came to Minnesota, and for seven years was employed by E. C. Pratt, running an express from Minneapolis to St. Paul, after which he was engaged in different occupations, until coming to his present farm in this place, in June, 1879. In 1861, he was married to Miss Maria Hanson, of St. Stephens, New Brunswick. They have eight children, four boys and four girls.

ALEXANDER McLEOD, was born in February, 1839, in one of the Scottish Isles. He is a descendant of Lord McLeod, who was an ancient Highland Chief of the northern part of his native isle. At the age of twelve years, he came to America with friends, and was employed on a farm near Rochester for several years. In 1855, he removed to Minnesota, remained a few years and went to Louisiana. When the civil war commenced, Mr. McLeod came to Hudson, Wisconsin, and enlisted in Company D, of the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry. The Company was in a great deal of active service, without being in many heavy engagements. In February, 1865, he was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee, after which, he was in the construction service for





a few months. Then, returning to Minnesota, he located in what was then Two Rivers, but now belongs to Elmdale. In 1874, he came to his present farm in this town. The same year he was married to Mrs. Hilda Wyatt, of Illinois. They have had seven children, six of whom are living; three boys and three girls.

PAUL NOE was born in Bavaria, Germany, where he received a good common school education. He came to America at the age of sixteen years, first resided with relatives, and was employed in rolling-mills, then went to Ohio, where he was engaged in the same business for a number of years. He enlisted at Lima, in Company C, of the Forty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was sent to Chatanooga, and afterwards participated in the battles of Spring Hill, Nashville, and Franklin. Was in the entire campaign with General Thomas through Tennessee and Alabama, and in April, 1865, the Company was stationed at Bull Gap, to prevent the retreat of some of Lee's Army. In June, 1865, Mr. Noe was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, and returned to his home in Ohio. In the fall of 1866, he came to Minnesota, and the following spring, to his present farm in section ten. Mr. Noe has held the office of Chairman of Supervisors for several years. Was married in 1860, to Miss Margaret Gessner, of Germany. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living; four girls and three boys.

SILAS SIMON PARMETER was born in Ontario county, New York, on the 12th of May, 1835. He learned the cooper's trade, and resided with his parents until twenty-one years of age. Then, coming to Minnesota, he worked at his trade for one year in Dakota county, and afterward moved to Wright county. In the fall of 1861, he enlisted at Fort Snelling in Company A, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was in the engagement at Fredericksburg in April, 1862, and the following August, was discharged for disability. Returned to his native place in New York, and in 1865, re-enlisted in Company C, of the Fortieth New York Infantry; was in the battle of Petersburg in April, and was mustered out in the following July. Mr. Parmeter then returned to Minnesota, and until 1876, was engaged in different occupations. In the latter year he came to his farm in this township and has since made it his home. Mr. Parmeter's first wife died in Buffalo, Wright county, on the 5th of January, 1870, and in 1872, he was married to Miss Eliza

Partridge. There are ten children living, five boys and five girls, and two are deceased.

HENRY ALBERT RHODA, one of the organizers of the town of Bernhansville, Todd county, is a German by birth, his nativity dating on the 13th of September, 1837. He received an academic education in his native land, and came with his father to America in 1856, locating in Carver county, Minnesota, where he resided until the war. On the 11th of March, 1862, he enlisted at Fort Snelling, in Company D, of the Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. The Company was sent south the following December, and participated in the following engagements: battle of Jackson, siege and assault of Vicksburg, assault of Fort De Russy, battles of Richmond, Pleasant Hill, Oxford, and Spanish Fort. On the 6th of September, 1864, he was mustered out at Demopolis, Alabama, returning to his former home in Carver county, and in 1866, came to his present farm in the town of Bernhansville, near the line of Morrison county. Mr. Rhoda has held the offices of Chairman of Supervisors, Justice of the Peace, and County Commissioner at different times, and for five or six years, has been County Superintendent of Schools. Was married in 1866, to Matilda Minning. Six children have been born, three boys and three girls.

JAMES STANLEY was born near Franklinville, Iowa, in February, 1852. When he was six years of age his father was murdered by thieves, after which James resided with a Mr. Henry McSwaine, in Wisconsin, until eleven years old. He then learned the broom-maker's trade in Algona, Iowa. Mr. Stanley came to Minnesota only a few years ago, located in this town and has since been engaged in butchering and lumbering.

RICHARD LAMBERT TRASK was born in Aroostook county, Maine, on the 30th of October, 1831. He came to Minnesota about the year 1856, and located on a farm in the town of Bellevue. In 1870, he removed to his present farm in this town. Since his residence here Mr. Trask has been County Commissioner for several terms and also held the office of Supervisor. In 1860, he was married to Miss Martha Borman, of Ohio. They had ten children, nine of whom are living; six girls and three boys.

SAMUEL MUNCY TRASK, a native of Aroostook county, Maine, was born on the 3d of July, 1847. His father came to Bellevue, Morrison county, in 1856, and in April, 1861, to this town, being the first permanent settler, and assisting in its organ-



ization. Samuel resided at home until the death of his father, since which time he has lived with his brother Marcus, devoting his time to the lumber business and farming.

DANIEL TRASK was born in Aroostook county, Maine, on the 31st of January, 1832. He was engaged in the lumber business with his father until coming to Minnesota in 1856. In 1861, he came to the farm on which he now lives. He enlisted in Company B, of the First Minnesota Volunteer Artillery, in 1864; was sent to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he was detailed in the Quartermaster department. In June, 1865, he was mustered out, and soon after, returned to his farm in this place. Mr. Trask was married to Miss Emma Godfrey, of Maine, in 1863. They have three children; one girl and two boys.

CALVIN AUSTIN TUTTLE was born in Tolland county, Connecticut, on the 31st of December, 1811. He received his education at the Academy of Tolland, and also learned the trade of a millwright. For two years he lived at Alton, Illinois, and in July, 1838, came to Minnesota. He was employed for a few years by the St. Louis Company, at the Falls of St. Croix; then moved to Iowa, and to Illinois, and finally returned to this State, locating at St. Anthony. He was employed by Franklin Steele & Co., in the erection of the first mill built at the Falls; also built for himself

the second mill at Minnetonka. During Mr. Tuttle's residence at Minneapolis, he was Territorial Treasurer for six years by appointment from Governor Ramsey. In 1867, he came to this town, located on his present farm, and has been Town Treasurer most of the time since. He was married to Miss Charlotte Minkler, of New York, in December, 1840. They have had seven children, four of whom are living.

CAPTAIN ROBERT B. YOUNG was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in 1814. In 1856, he came to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Scott county. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the army, serving as First Lieutenant. During the winter he was on the frontier, and the following spring was promoted to Captain and sent south. He participated in the siege of Corinth, also in the battles of Jackson and Champion Hills. While in the latter battle, Captain Young was sunstruck, and in June, 1863, resigned, since which time he has drawn a pension. In the latter year he returned to his former home in Scott county, and afterwards became engaged in the milling business with his sons, Thomas M., James M., and Milo N. They now own a flouring-mill in this township, erected in 1875. It is 36x36 feet, four stories high, has two run of stones and one set of rolls, with a capacity of twenty barrels per day.

THE HISTORY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT  
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BY  
JOHN HUTCHINGS  
OF THE BARRISTER AT LAW  
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BOSTON: PRINTED BY S. KNEELAND, AT THE SIGN OF THE ANCHOR, IN THE MARKET PLACE.  
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## CROW WING COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CL.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY EXPLORATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS—VILLAGE OF CROW WING—ORGANIZATION—FORT RIPLEY STATION.

Crow Wing county, located in north central Minnesota, was created by an act of the Legislature, approved on the 23d of May, 1857, with the following described boundaries: beginning at the southeast corner of township forty-three north, range twenty-eight west of the fourth principal meridian; thence north on the line between ranges twenty-seven and twenty-eight, to the center of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence down the center of said channel to its intersection with the line between townships forty-two and forty-three; thence east on said township line to the place of beginning. The county is bounded on the west and north by the Mississippi river, on the east by Aitkin and Mille Lacs counties, and on the south by Morrison county. The surface is generally undulating, with a slight trend to the south and west. It is drained by the Mississippi river and its tributaries, the chief of which are the Little Nokay and Noka Sebe rivers, whose general direction is south and west.

Long Lake and several smaller lakes in the central and eastern part, have outlets flowing into the "Father of Waters." The soil varies from a light sandy, to a rich dark loam, with occasional tracts of clay loam, and with the abundant supply of wild meadow, renders this region well adapted to agriculture and grazing. Situated in the southern portion of the pine region, its surface is mostly wooded, the usual varieties of hard wood abounding, in addition to its forests of pine. In the southwest is found prairie and light burr oak openings. At the old village site of Crow Wing a fierce encounter is said to have occurred between the Sioux and Chippewas many years ago, traces of the pits dug by the latter being still visible.

Among the early explorers of this region, the names of G. C. Beltrami and C. H. Beaulieu are still preserved in tradition. The former is believed to have passed through here as early as 1823, and the latter is said to have had a trading post at or near the mouth of the Crow Wing river about the year 1837. Hon. H. M. Rice is authority for the statement that William Aitkin opened a trading post at the mouth of Little Rock river, and C. H. Beaulieu at Crow Wing, in 1846, and were furnished with goods from Prairie du Chien. Philip Beaupre, now residing near Sauk Rapids, came from Fort Garry, on the Red River, to Crow Wing, in the spring of 1844. When he came to this place he found Allen Morrison and Donald McDonald trading with the Indians. About the time Fort Ripley was established, S. B. Olmstead settled on the east side of the Mississippi river opposite the Fort, the location being, at that time, a part of Benton county, but afterwards included in Crow Wing. This farm is now the home of Daniel S. Mooers, who purchased it in the year 1868. Among other early settlers or traders who came about this date, were Clemens H. Beaulieu, John Fairbanks, John McGillis, Wallace Bean, and David McArthur. Crow Wing was then the centre of Indian trading for all the upper country, the general supply store being located at this place, under the management of Beaulieu & Co., from which the trading posts in the country drew their supplies from time to time. This state of things continued for a number of years. Benjamin Brown opened a hotel here about 1860. From this date, additions were made year by year to the population and the business interests of the place. In 1866, the settlement and village contained seven families of whites, and about twenty-three of half-breeds and Chippewas, with a large transient population, which is variously estimated by parties who resided in the village at the time. The entire population was, from reliable estimates, about



six hundred. There were two hotels, a number of boarding-houses, two stores, one blacksmith shop, an Episcopal, and a Catholic church, a school kept in the Episcopal church edifice, and two saloons at this date. Mrs. Beaulieu, Mrs. Chapman, and Mrs. Whipple were the only white women in the place in 1866.

Crow Wing, as a business point, has passed away, most of the buildings having been removed to Brainerd, and the remaining ones destroyed. It is stated by former residents of the village that the number of families did not exceed twenty-five, and the entire population could not have exceeded six hundred persons.

When the county was organized in 1857, it was attached to Morrison county for judicial purposes. The first District Court was held in Crow Wing about 1859, Judge J. McKelvy presiding. Charles Beaulieu was clerk of the District Court; William Wade, Sheriff; Allen Morrison, John H. Fairbanks, and C. H. Beaulieu, Sen., were the first Commissioners. The county business was conducted in an irregular manner for a few years, when the organization was abandoned, and reorganized by an act of the Legislature on the 3d of March, 1870. The first meeting of the County Commissioners bears the date, January 19th, 1870, and was held at the hotel of Henry Whipple, at Crow Wing. Henry Whipple, Wallace Bean, and F. W. Peake were constituted the Board of Commissioners, the first named being chairman. The old Auditor sent in the books and papers belonging to the county and in use under the former organization. F. M. Campbell was sworn as Auditor; P. Cathcart was appointed Judge of Probate on the 29th of January, 1870, and on the same date H. M. Mixer and C. H. Beaulieu, Sen., were appointed County Commissioners. John McGillis was appointed Justice of the Peace on the 21st of February, 1870. On the 8th of March, 1870, the County Commissioners passed a resolution declaring all official proceedings prior to that date illegal, and all orders drawn upon the county treasury, void and not subject to payment.

The officers for 1870 were: County Commissioners, Wallace Bean, Chairman, Henry Whipple, and F. W. Peake; Treasurer, E. B. Snyder; Sheriff, William Wood; Auditor, F. M. Campbell; Clerk of the Court, C. H. Beaulieu.

About twenty miles south of Brainerd, and about eight from the old village of Crow Wing is Fort Ripley Station, about half a mile from the

river, and opposite the old Fort from which it derives its name. It was established upon the completion of the railroad from Sauk Rapids to Brainerd, and F. A. Perley assigned to duty here as agent. The present agent is L. I. Baker, who is also Postmaster. The depot, a grain warehouse, water-tank, and a small store comprise the buildings.

About four miles northeast of the station is a lumber mill, with capacity of three thousand feet per day. It is on the Noka Sebe river, which furnishes the motive power. It was built in October, 1880, by J. Gorst and M. E. Coe, the latter retiring from the firm in March, 1881, since which time Mr. Gorst has conducted the business alone.

On the 3d of April, 1871, Miss Ellen McArthur, a daughter of David McArthur, living about two miles east of Crow Wing, was murdered by two Indians, while on her way from her father's house to that of Henry Whipple. For some time it was supposed she had run away, though no reason existed for such an act. In August, an old Indian woman whom the murderers had offended, told a young girl, Ida Whipple, the truth, and named the guilty parties. This information subsequently led to their arrest at White Earth, from whence they were brought to Brainerd and lodged in jail, from which they were taken by a party said to have been led by Anson Northrup, and hanged without ceremony to a pine tree in the village. The old pine is yet standing, though dead, and without top or branch, except the bare arm from which the murderers were suspended.

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## BRAINERD.

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### CHAPTER CLI.

SITUATION—EARLY CLAIMANTS—SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH—FIRST NEWSPAPER—CITY GOVERNMENT—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Brainerd, the county seat of Crow Wing county, is located on the east bank of the Mississippi river, on ground sixty feet above high water mark, one hundred and thirty-six miles from St. Paul, one hundred and fifteen from Duluth, and one hundred and thirty-seven east of Moorhead, on the Red River. Accounts of its early settlement, though





of comparatively recent date, are somewhat conflicting. The following account is from one of the participants in the early movements and may be received as authentic.

The Northern Pacific Railroad was surveyed to the present site of this town, and the railroad crossing of the Mississippi river determined in June, 1870. A few days after the surveying party had passed Little Falls on their way north, O. W. Sylvester, Lewis Hamlin, William H. Horn, Alfred Tanner, Robert A. Beggs, Moses Lefond, and perhaps others, formed a temporary company and sent part of their number up the river to secure the ground for a town site, at the place where the surveying party should determine to cross the river. Proceeding to Crow Wing by wagon, thence in canoes, they reached this point about the time the surveyors were completing their work. Under pretext of hunting, they remained near by until the surveyors left, then located and marked out a claim embracing what they deemed sufficient for a town, and railroad purposes. They then returned to Little Falls, and soon a part of the company visited the claim and constructed two or three temporary residences, and divided the ground, each member being assigned his part. Some of these were evidently sold to Mrs. Hester Gilman, who entered part of the present site of Brainerd, the patent bearing the date of record December 10th, 1870. The same record shows a transfer of her rights to the Lake Superior and Puget Sound Company, on the 13th of August, 1870. The remaining members of the original claimants sold their interests to the same Company. About this time Charles Darby "jumped" a portion of the town site not included in Mrs. Gilman's claim, and built the first house of round logs, completed as a permanent dwelling, near the ground now occupied by the railroad shops, in block eighteen. Soon after, he also sold to the Lake Superior and Puget Sound Company.

The second house was built by Stuart Seeley, and was of hewed logs, a few rods north of the railroad bridge, used as a boarding house. The third was a small, hastily constructed building occupied as a saloon. The next was the residence of L. P. White, agent of the Lake Superior and Puget Sound Company, corner of Seventh and Juniper streets. This company took immediate steps for building up a town, and the sale of lots. The town was platted in the fall of 1870, and recorded September 29, 1871. From the location of

the town, settlers began to flock to the place. S. W. Taylor, John Bishop, Edward B. Lynde, John Martin, W. W. Hartley, Fred W. Peake, Thomas Holmes, and two of his brothers, H. A. Hall, Frank Dunn, Edward Morse, and a number of others, came during the fall of 1870, and a number of boarding houses and hotels were started. Bly & Co. started a general supply store, and others of the new comers started some of the different lines of trade and business. The Headquarters Hotel was built soon after by the Railroad Company, and the Northwestern House by Joseph Styles.

In the fall of 1870, the first marriage occurred, the parties being Joseph Gronden and Miss Darby.

Numerous houses of various kinds, shapes and styles were erected during this summer. A large portion of the buildings, that had served a noble purpose for many years in the village of Crow Wing, were, during this summer removed to this place, and occupied either for residences or business houses. The crowded streets, the busy stores, the jammed hotels, the rumbling of the cars, the sound of the hammer all day and a large portion of the night, and the constant ingress of emigrants, bearing unmistakable evidence of a real life, flowed onward like a stream with great force.

In 1871, measures were taken for the erection of a court house and jail, the contract being awarded to L. P. White, for the sum of \$971.60. The building was 18x20 feet, and two stories high. On the first floor were four cells, 4x8 feet, and two, 8x8 feet, in front of which was a room, 8x18 feet, for a Sheriff's office. The walls of the jail were of scantling lying flat, and spiked together, nine hundred and fifty-eight pounds of large spikes being used in the construction. The second floor of the building was furnished for a court room.

During this year the first ferry across the Mississippi was built by the railroad company, and after some time the title was transferred to Cass county.

The Post-office was established and Dr. S. W. Thayer commissioned Postmaster. He was also the first practicing physician. H. M. Mixer opened the first blacksmith shop; and church and school interests were given due attention. During the winter of 1871-72, over two hundred lots were sold by Mr. White. In the latter year, the Leland House was built, with eighteen rooms, which, by its addition in 1879, was increased to sixty. The Merchants Hotel was also built during this year by Mrs. Chapman, who still owns and con-



trols it. H. A. Hills, who had engaged in the mercantile trade prior to this date, started the first bank during this year. Frank Dunn opened the first livery stable, but soon after sold it to S. V. R. Sherwood, who in 1874, sold to N. McFadden, the present owner. During the early part of the year, the Brainerd Hook and Ladder Company was organized.

This year also witnessed the establishment of the "Brainerd Tribune," through which medium Brainerd began to be known abroad, and to which was largely due the influx of settlers and remarkable developments following. During the latter part of the year a charter was obtained, authorizing the organization of the City of Brainerd, and on the 11th of January, 1873, the Common Council was organized with the following officers: President, L. P. White; Vice President, M. Tuttle; Aldermen, L. P. White, M. Tuttle, W. L. Heathcote, William Murphy, Antony Mahlum, and F. X. Goulet; City Clerk, P. H. Trudell; City Treasurer, Robert McNider; City Attorney, C. B. Sleeper; and City Justice, W. W. Hartley.

Under this organization several additions to the original plat were surveyed and recorded, as the rapid development of the place required.

The name first suggested for this place was "Ogamagua," in honor of Mrs. Emma Bollion, a woman of rare personal beauty, to whom the Indians gave the name mentioned, meaning Queen, or Chief Woman. The present name was chosen in honor of the wife of J. Gregory Smith, first President of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, Mrs. Smith's family name being Brainerd.

During this year Barrows, Prescott, & Basset built a steam saw mill near the railroad bridge, capacitated to do good work. This firm ran the mill one year, then sold it to George W. LeDue, who, in a short time, sold to Mr. Bly, who soon after removed it to its present site, about three-fourths of a mile south of the city, and in 1876, sold it to Jones Brothers, who operated it until 1878, when it passed into the hands of J. A. Davis & Co., the present proprietors. The mill, with its enlargements, has now a daily capacity of fifty thousand feet of lumber, eighty thousand shingles, and twenty-five thousand lath. It is operated by an engine of one hundred and twenty-five horsepower. Near this is a planing and shingle mill driven by a seventy-five horse-power engine. This company employs about seventy-five men in and about the mills.

With the establishment of lumber manufactories, substantial and even elegant dwellings supplanted the ruder cabins, and with the exception of a temporary check growing out of Jay Cooke's failure, and the suspension of railroad construction, the place has since enjoyed a steady growth, and is now the most active town on this line of road. Its population, in 1880, as shown by the census returns, was one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, which has since increased to much larger proportions, a local writer of the "Brainerd Tribune" claiming not less than four thousand in the early autumn of 1881. The number of substantial business houses, representatives of the various professions, churches, schools, societies, etc., mark a development rarely met with in so young a city.

Not less remarkable than the rapid growth of the place was an act of the Legislature, approved January 11th, 1876, reducing the city organization, and substituting an ordinary township government, in which condition it still remains. It is hardly probable, however, that with the spirit of progress now apparent, the place will long remain without a municipal form of government.

A National Bank Association was formed at this place in August, 1881, with a capital stock of \$50,000, and the following board of Directors: William Ferris, H. A. Towne, G. W. Holland, L. P. White, J. A. Davis, C. B. Sleeper, James Gardner, C. Abby, G. G. Hartley, Adam Brown, and James Dewar, the first named being chosen President.

The first educational effort was in the early summer of 1872, under the direction of Messrs. Bean, Prescott, and White, who, as a self-constituted committee, purchased of John Hess, for fifty dollars, a building of hewed logs near the railroad bridge, in which Miss Hall was employed as teacher.

During the same season an independent school district was formed, with L. P. White, Clerk; P. D. Davenport, Director; and T. F. Knappen, Treasurer. In 1873, the main part of the present school building was erected, which, with its additions will accommodate two hundred and fifty scholars, arranged in four departments. The only school building in the county aside from this, is located near Crow Wing, in district number one, which embraces all the county outside the township of Brainerd. A building, however, is in contemplation at Brainerd, north of the railroad, for





an additional primary department, to accommodate residents of that locality. The estimated value of school property in the county is \$3,055, and the amount expended for teachers' wages in 1880, was \$2,250.

The "Brainerd Tribune," already mentioned, was started by M. C. Russell, and was for some time printed in the "Journal" office at St. Cloud, arriving here Sunday morning by stage. The first issue was opened at the Post-office on Sunday morning, February 6th, 1872, and among the crowd of men who gathered there, six hundred copies were sold at ten cents each. This was the first newspaper on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. After six months Mr. Russell was enabled to purchase an outfit; and published the "Tribune" at Brainerd. In 1874, his entire outfit with the new building but recently occupied, was destroyed by fire, involving a total loss. With scarce the loss of a week, a new outfit was procured, and the publication resumed. In April, 1875, W. W. Hartley purchased the office, under whose management it still continues.

**CHURCHES.**—The first religious service held at Brainerd, was in 1870, and conducted by Dr. S. W. Thayer, a physician in the employ of the Railroad company, reading the Episcopal service in a log house near the river. Bishop Whipple afterwards visited the place, and in 1871, Rev. J. A. Gillilan preached in the open air, in front of the Headquarters Hotel, calling his congregation together by means of a small hand-bell. The next year a church edifice was erected, the furniture for which was made in St. Cloud, and shipped by rail to this point by way of St. Paul and Duluth. A church was organized with the following officers: C. W. Mead, Senior Warden; F. H. Harvey, Junior Warden; S. W. Thayer, C. T. Hobart, John Blackman, William Lytle, H. G. Coykendall, L. P. White, John Davis, and T. F. Knappen, Vestrymen. The church was consecrated May 24th, 1873, by Bishop Whipple. Revs. F. R. Mills-paugh, W. Root, and F. J. Hawley have succeeded to the Rectorship, the latter being in charge since May, 1880.

Early in 1871, the Rev. James Gourley, a Methodist Episcopal Missionary, held religious service here in a log hut near the river, and on the 13th of October, 1872, a Methodist church was organized under the pastoral efforts of Rev. H. J. Crist, with a membership of nine, which has since increased to twenty-five. The same year a

house of worship was erected at a cost of \$1,000. Revs. A. A. Sutton, M. B. Smith, C. H. Dixon, and E. Nelthorpe have been the pastors, the latter now being in charge.

A Baptist church was organized on the 8th of September, 1872, through the efforts of Rev. John Wood, of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, and during the year a church edifice and parsonage were built at a cost of \$1,150. The removal of several prominent members soon reduced the society, and led to the omission of regular service from October, 1875, to the present year, when Rev. G. W. Huntley began holding regular services, and soon secured the services of Rev. J. Wilkins as Pastor, since which the society has enjoyed uninterrupted prosperity.

A Congregational Church was organized on the 13th of August, 1872, with twenty members. A house of worship was built and donated to the church by J. Gregory Smith, whose wife also presented the society with an organ. The church was dedicated on the 22d of January, 1873, and Rev. Samuel Ingham became their first pastor. His successors have been Revs. E. S. Williams, — Cadwallader, C. C. Salter, C. A. Conant, Adam Simpson, and the present minister, Rev. R. A. Beard, who assumed charge in September, 1879. The church was destroyed by fire on the 7th of January, 1881, and a new one is in course of erection. The present membership is seventy-five.

The Catholics also have a small church edifice, and the society, which is not numerous, is supplied by the priest located at Little Falls.

#### SOCIETIES.

**MASONIC.**—Aurora Lodge No. 100, A. F. and A. M. was organized January 15th, 1879, with the following officers: C. P. Thayer, W. M.; C. D. Wiley, S. W.; B. L. Perry, J. W.; F. H. Harvey, Sec.; H. G. Coykendall, Treas.; George Dow, S. D.; M. C. Kellog, J. D.; and G. Gage, Tyler. The present membership is thirty-nine.

**ODD FELLOWS.**—Wilkey Lodge No. 37, I. O. of O. F., was organized December 5th, 1872, with the following official roster: P. H. Trudell, N. G.; W. M. Falconer, V. G.; J. C. Waller, Sec.; and William Aylmer, Treas. It has enjoyed a prosperous career, and now numbers sixty-two members.

Bushworth Encampment No. 19, I. O. of O. F., was organized in the fall of 1879. The charter officers were: E. R. French, C. R.; W. W. Hartley, H. P.; H. H. Scobie, S. W.; A. Mahlum, S.;



Thomas Bason, T.; P. M. Lagerquist, J. W.; E. P. McKee, O. S. S.; N. Hiller, I. S. S.; and James Dewar, G.

Brainerd Lodge No. 47, A. O. of U. W. was organized February 14th, 1878, and the following were the first officers of the lodge: W. W. Hartley, P. M. W.; J. O. Congdon, N. W.; James Dewar, Treas.; H. A. Campbell, Sec.; W. A. Smith, R.; and T. P. Cantwell, F.

Brainerd Division No. 144, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers was organized in 1873, with ten members. The object of the order is the benefit of engineers and their families, either in sickness or want, and has an insurance department similar to that of other orders. Its first officers were: P. H. Carney, Chief Engineer; James Petergin, First Assistant. The present membership is forty.

Pine City Lodge No. 81, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, was organized August 17th, 1881. Its object and management is similar to that last mentioned. Its official roster is as follows: F. D. Millspaugh, Master; J. Collins, Treas. and Sec.; L. H. Smith, Fin. Sec.; and F. D. Millspaugh, Managing Agent. The society now numbers sixteen.

William Tell Lodge No. 15, Herman's Sons, was organized April 1st, 1880. The first officers were: Adolph Schultz, Pres.; Adam Bellmuth, Vice Pres.; E. P. Gassman, Ex-Pres.; Peter Ort, Sec.; and Henry Gunther, Treas. The present membership is twenty-one.

A Good Templars Lodge was organized in February, 1873, with J. S. Campbell, W. C. T.; Mrs. D. O. Preston, W. V. T.; D. O. Preston, R. S.; H. J. Humphry, F. S.; Mrs. J. S. Campbell, Treas.; S. H. Thorn, Marshal; and Rev. A. D. Williams, Chaplain. Sixteen charter members were enrolled, and for a time the lodge enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity, then ceased to exist.

In October, 1881, a new lodge was organized, and the first five officers, in the order just named, are: A. E. Loesy, Mrs. Thomas Watts, A. S. Babcock, Mrs. Fessenden, and Thomas Watts. The Chaplain is Rev. J. Williams.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—Without in the least detracting from the credit due the citizens of Brainerd, whose several enterprises have already been mentioned, it is but just to state that this, as well as other flourishing towns along this line of road, owes its existence, and its chief develop-

ment to the Railroad Company, of which a brief history is here given.

Decades have elapsed since the grand scheme of connecting the great Lakes with the Pacific ocean by rail first attracted public notice, and while the project was yet in embryo, Mr. Perlman, an enthusiast and a dreamer, with a horde of kindred spirits, thought to grapple with this great project without the aid of either capital, influence, or experience. They believed it an easy matter to find a million of men who would each take a share, of one hundred dollars, and thus a hundred million dollars be obtained with which to build and equip the road. But they were not found, and so this air castle crumbled and perished. Mr. Perlman died long ago, and is only remembered as the originator of this fruitless project.

The next were men of different mold, and, appreciating the great task to be accomplished, sought aid in the shape of Government bonds, and a bill granting the required aid passed one house in Congress, and barely failed in the other; but it was no less a failure, and so this second association passed from the stage, and were forgotten. At last there came men of character—men of experience, who unitedly determined upon pushing the enterprise to successful completion. Among these were, J. Edgar Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania railroad; Thomas A. Scott, its Vice President; William B. Ogden, President of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad; J. Gregory Smith, President of the Vermont Central system; B. P. Cheney, of Boston; George W. Cass, President of the Pittsburg and Fort Wayne railroad; with the leading men in the great house of Wells, Fargo, & Co. Through their efforts the banking house of Jay Cooke & Co., were induced to lend their aid; and so at last the work began.

The act of incorporation was approved July 2d, 1864. It named one hundred and thirty-four incorporators, among whom were General U. S. Grant, Alexander Mitchell, of Wisconsin, and in this State, Hon. H. M. Rice, Cyrus Aldrich, H. C. Waite, and others. In 1867, the first survey was made under direction of Edmund F. Johnson, Chief Engineer, and under the personal supervision of General Ira Spaulding, one line being run from the head of Lake Superior to Fort Abercrombie, and one from Bayfield, Wisconsin, to St. Cloud, and thence up the valley of the Sank river. Still the work lagged, and it was not until January, 1870, when Jay Cooke came to the front and





raised \$5,000,000, that the long delayed start was made. During the latter part of the month following, the first dirt was moved at the Northern Pacific Junction near Duluth, and within a year the track was pushed forward to Brainerd, and, scarcely halting, reached westward, until in 1873, trains were running to Bismarck on the Missouri river, covering a distance of four hundred and fifty miles besides one hundred on the Pacific side. But the enormous expense incurred, and the meager returns, proved too much to overcome, and in September there came a general crash, plunging the Company into hopeless bankruptcy. In the spring of 1875, foreclosure was resorted to as the only means of relief, and in five months the property was sold under a plan of re-organization provided for in the decree of foreclosure.

It is proper here to state some of the obstacles which not only impeded the Company's progress, but contributed to the unhappy condition of affairs mentioned. First, the proposition at the outset, was one of the most gigantic in the history of the Nation, the proposed road with its main line, and branch over the Cascade range, covering a distance of three thousand three hundred miles, eighteen hundred of which was to run through a region unredeemed from the barbarity of the Savage, and only policed and garrisoned by a limited number of United States troops. Added to this was the prejudice existing against the region to be traversed. Early geographers marked in this area the "Great American Desert;" General Sully had written disparagingly of the Bad Lands, which he described as "an imaginary hell with the fires put out;" General Stanley pronounced the region only fit for Indians and mules; to which General Hazen added, that land west of the one hundredth meridian was wholly unproductive, and that the whole Northern Pacific belt was a swindle. J. Proctor Knott added the crowning effort in this series of fallacies, in his Duluth speech in 1876, in which, however, the picture was so overwrought that its ultimate effect was beneficial to the Company.

Time has banished the errors of earlier days, and the public have learned that the route traversed by this road is one rarely equaled in fertility, and offers many superior inducements to settlers.

The land grant of the company, in Minnesota, embraces a tract extending twenty miles on either side of the line, with an additional twenty in

which to supply the deficiency caused by previous sales within the first named limit; and through the Territories west, the regular limit is forty miles on either side, with an additional ten to supply deficiencies. Thousands of settlers have already found homes along this route, and about fifty per cent. is annually added to the cultivated area.

At all principal points on the line are large elevators, and at Duluth a monster receptacle has been built by the Lake Superior Elevator Company, with a capacity of one million bushels, and another of like dimensions is now being built.

Since January, 1880, the company has maintained an Express company of its own, the net earnings of which for the year ending June 30th, 1881, was \$51,579.92. The company also owns the sleeping cars in use on its several lines, on which the net earnings for the last fiscal year were \$15,976.86.

The equipment, as shown by the last annual report, was one hundred and four locomotives, sixty-eight passenger, sleeping, mail, and baggage cars; and of freight, including cabooses, boarding and mess cars, three thousand and twenty-one. Eighty-seven more locomotives are already contracted for, and large additions are being made to the rolling stock, to meet the increasing demand in freight and passenger traffic.

About one-half the main line is now built and in operation, making, with branch and rented lines, a total of one thousand and sixty-five miles in use at the date mentioned.

In 1876, for the first time in the Company's history, the earnings were in excess of the expenditures. Its last report gives the gross earnings at \$1,198,965.71, leaving a balance over all expenses, of \$969,129.19. The Presidents of the Railroad have been J. Gregory Smith, George W. Cass, Charles B. Wright, Frederick Billings, and the present official, H. Villard. Other officers at present are: Vice-President, Thomas F. Oakes; Secretary, Samuel Wilkinson; General Counsel, George Gray; Engineer in Chief, Adna Anderson; Treasurer, R. Lenox Belknap; General Auditor, J. A. Barker; General Manager Eastern Division, Herman Haupt; General Superintendent Western Division, J. W. Sprague.

The headquarters of the company are at Brainerd, this point having been selected, and work begun upon the arrival of the road in 1871. The first train, a special, reached here March 11th 1871, in charge of Conductor William P. Spal-



ding, who also brought the first regular passenger train through in September following, and on the 1st of November, 1877, Mr. Spalding brought the first passenger train from St. Paul, by way of Sauk Rapids.

The local offices here are in an elegant building latter being a resident partner, and the former in costing \$36,000, near which is the Headquarters Hotel, also owned by the company. All the local offices are here except those of the General Manager, Superintendent of Transportation, General Passenger, and Freight, Treasurer, Auditor, Superintendent of Express, Superintendent of Telegraph, Attorney, and Land Office. A new building is in process of construction at the corner of Broadway and Fourth street, St. Paul, which, when completed, will be the best constructed building in the city, if not in the Northwest. Its walls rest upon piles, covered by flag-stone, above which is concrete, and its basement is of St. Paul and Kasota limestone, the whole to be surmounted with brick walls, the face brick shipped from Glen's Falls, New York. The building is 152x62 feet, and of faultless design. The main shops are at Brainerd, where over five hundred men are constantly employed, and about twelve hundred will be required the coming year. The shops now in use cover an aggregate of over forty-seven thousand square feet, and new buildings soon to be completed, will add over one hundred and fifteen thousand, beside their new round-house, three hundred and sixteen feet in diameter, with stalls for forty-four engines. All the new buildings have stone foundations, heavy brick walls, and iron roofs covered with slate. Repair shops are also maintained at other points, although this is the headquarters for all the mechanical departments.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

ISAAC W. ADAMS is a native of England, born on the 19th of August, 1859. He came to America in 1870, and for four years was employed at cabinet making in Duluth. Then came to Brainerd and worked in the paint shop of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company till April, 1881, when in company with Mr. Congdon, he commenced the business of house, sign, and ornamental painting.

ALLEN AKERLEY, a native of New Brunswick, was born in 1848. In 1871, he came to Brainerd, remained a year and returned to his native place, where for four years he was engaged in farming and lumbering. Then went to Pennsylvania for a

year, and in April, 1878, came again to this place, and carries on a boarding stable, which is connected with the Leland House. He also owns a half interest in a livery and sale stable, which was started a few months ago, his partner being George H. Stratton.

REV. R. A. BEARD is a native of Union county, Ohio, born in 1851. He attended a high school, and partly completed a collegiate course, after which he studied law, and was admitted to the Bar on his twenty-first birthday. He practiced his profession two years in Ashley, Ohio, and three years in Columbus. He finally decided to enter the ministry, and in September, 1876, began a course at Oberlin Theological Seminary, graduating and receiving the degree of B. D., in June, 1879. Took charge of the church in this place which was his first pastorate.

WALLACE BEANE was born in England in 1832. He came to America in 1840, and lived on farms in different parts of the state of Illinois for ten years. Then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and engaged in handling merchandise from that city to the frontier. In 1856, he went to the Chippewa agency, remained four years and came to Crow Wing, where he pre-empted land on which he lived till 1870. In the latter year he came to Brainerd, taking a homestead about a mile and a half southwest of the village. Mr. Beane was a member of the board of County Commissioners at the time the county seat was changed from Crow Wing to Brainerd.

T. C. BIVINS, a native of Erie county, New York, was born on the 1st of September, 1832. His family moved to Ohio when he was young, but he remained in his native place till 1854. Then came to Minnesota and engaged in driving stage and carrying the mail from St. Paul to Mankato. After spending two years in the latter occupation, and three in farming, he removed to Houghton, Michigan, and worked in the copper mines of that place ten years. Then returned to Mankato, and a year later, went to Duluth, where he was employed by the railroad company in handling supplies. In March, 1881, he came to Brainerd in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and is at present timber inspector for that corporation.

JAMES BAIN, a native of Scotland, was born in 1832. He came to America in 1871, resided one year in Duluth engaged at his trade, (shoemak-





ing) and then came to Brainerd, starting a shop which he still carries on.

LEWIS I. BAKER, present Agent and Postmaster at Fort Ripley Station, was born in Canada on the 7th of July, 1842. When he was an infant, the family moved, and at his earliest recollection, were living at Detroit, Michigan. After living there and in Wisconsin for a time, they returned to Canada in 1854, and two years later, came to Minnesota; thence to Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio, where our subject enlisted in the spring of 1862, in Company K, of the Fifth Ohio Cavalry. At the battle of Waynesboro, Louisiana, in May, 1865, he was wounded, a ball passing through the windpipe, after which he was discharged. In 1868, he came again to Minnesota, and took charge of the railway station at Minneapolis Junction, having full charge of the business of three different organizations till December, 1880. Then came to this station, where he also has charge of a grain house and buys grain for H. A. Sawyer. Mr. Baker was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Vail, on the 17th of December, 1871, the ceremony taking place at St. Anthony. They have had five children; two died in infancy, and three are living.

THOMAS R. CONGDON was born on the 20th of October, 1859, at Addison, New York. Since 1875, he has been a resident of Brainerd, being employed the first four years in the paint shop of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Has since been in the business with Mr. Adams, the firm name being Congdon & Adams.

JOSEPH R. CAVANAGH, a native of England, was born in 1857. In 1869, he came to America, locating in Marshalltown, Iowa, where he was in the employ of the Iowa Central Railroad Company; remained in their employ till May, 1881, being for ten years car accountant. At the latter date he came to Brainerd and took the position of clerk in the car accountant department, which position he now holds.

JOHN C. CONGDON, master painter of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, is a native of Nelson, Tioga county, Pennsylvania, born on the 4th of December, 1842. He learned his trade in his native town, after which he moved to Illinois, remained a year, and then went to Wisconsin for two years, still working at his trade. After an engagement of two years with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, he accepted his present employment, remained two years in St. Paul, and came to Brainerd in 1872.

NOBLE H. CONGER was born on the 13th of October, 1843, in St. Lawrence county, New York. He received his education at the Lawrenceville Academy, and in 1870, commenced the practice of dentistry in Malone, New York. Two years later he removed to Iowa, where he was engaged at his profession four years, then for the same length of time in the United States army. In 1880, Mr. Conger came to Brainerd, opened a dentist office, and also owns a photograph gallery, which is in charge of Mr. McCall.

MISS MATTIE CALEY has conducted the restaurant, confectionery, and fruit business since 1879. The business was established by Mrs. C. J. Birch, in 1878, who sold the following year to the present owner.

CHRISTOPHER M. CHILD was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in 1846. In 1871, he removed to Michigan, and was employed in a machine shop till coming to Brainerd, in 1876. Since his residence here, he was employed two years as fireman, and six months as engineer on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Then, on account of poor health, he was compelled to leave the engine, and is now night fireman in the round house at this place.

JULIUS D. CHENEY, a native of Illinois, was born in 1842. He was reared on a farm, and at the age of eighteen years, removed to Quincy, Illinois, where he was employed in a drug store. In 1866, came to Hastings, Minnesota, and started in business for himself; sold out after a short time, and for three years resided on a farm. Then, after living on a farm in Stearns county for a time, he again started in the drug business, to which he has since devoted his time. In 1876, he moved to Sank Rapids, and in March, 1881, to Brainerd, where he keeps a drug and notion store.

JOHN B. CONANT was born in 1827, in the state of New York. He was a resident of Iowa from 1855 till coming to Brainerd in 1870, excepting three years service in the war. Mr. Conant owns a farm about two miles from Brainerd, which he is improving, but resides in the village. He has held several town offices since his residence here; was Justice of the Peace in an early day, and is at present Court Commissioner.

MRS. SARAH CHAPMAN came to Brainerd in 1872 erected the house which she named the Merchants Hotel, and has since conducted it. It is a two and a half story frame building, containing fifteen rooms.



THOMAS J. DE LA MERÉ was born in New York City, in 1848. From boyhood, he has been in the railroad business, and since 1873, with the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and is at present their car accountant.

WALTER DAVIS, foreman of the car shops at Brainerd, is of English birth, his nativity dating in 1841. He learned the ship-joiner's trade in his native country, and came to America in 1869. Came to Minnesota and resided on a farm in Jackson county, till 1871, then was employed in car shops at Duluth a few months and returned to his farm. In the spring of 1872, he went to the Northern Pacific Junction, and the following August, came to Brainerd. Was for three years employed as journeyman in the car shops, since which time he has held his present position.

PAUL D. DAVENPORT is a native of Cambridge, Washington county, New York, born in 1821. He was reared on a farm, remaining in his native State till 1856. Then came to Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, and took a homestead in Maple Grove, but lived in the former place. In 1858, he sold his farm and settled in Le Sauk, where he lived till 1870, when he, with his son Levi, started for Brainerd. They engaged in the freighting business from Sauk Rapids to Brainerd, sometimes employing as many as fourteen teams on the road. In the spring of 1871, they started in the grocery business, since which time they have twice been burned out, but are now doing a good business. Levi D. Davenport, his son, was born in 1857, in New York. He has always been with his father, and for several years past, associated with him in business.

BARNARD A. DUFFRA is a native of Norway, and was born in 1843. He came to America in 1866, resided one year in St. Louis, thence to Marseilles, Illinois, till 1870. Then, for ten years, he was employed at the painter's trade in Chicago. In 1880, he came to Brainerd and formed a partnership with Mr. Fredrickson in the painting business.

JOHN A. DAVIS is a son of Andrew S. Davis, who came to St. Anthony, Minnesota, in 1849, and engaged in the lumber business. Our subject was born on the 19th of March, 1842, in Maine. In 1861, he enlisted in the army, served three and a half years, and on his return, engaged in the lumber business in company with his father, continuing until 1880. In 1871, they were appointed by the Government to look after the pine interests

and trespassers on the Government lands in this locality, which position they held five years. In April, 1880, the subject of this sketch came to Brainerd, and in company with Farnham & Lovejoy, purchased the lumber mills which they still own and operate; the firm name being J. A. Davis & Co.

WILLIAM L. FRATCHER was born on the 24th of February, 1857, in the state of New York. He was employed as clerk in the boot and shoe store of his father until about twenty years of age. Then came to Brainerd, and has since held the position of clerk in the roadmaster's department of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

ANDREW FREDRICKSON was born in 1845, in Norway. He came to America in 1866, and was, for a few months, engaged at his trade in Galesburg, Illinois. After a residence of twelve years in Chicago, he came to Brainerd, in June, 1879, and the following year, the company of Fredrickson and Duffra was formed. They do a large business in house, sign, carriage, and ornamental painting.

MIL0 D. FORD is a native of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, born in the year 1834. In 1858, he came to Alma, Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where he carried on a farm for eight years. Then, after engaging at the carpenter trade three years in Wabasha, and the same length of time at Greenfield, he came to Brainerd, in 1874. The first two years he was employed on bridge work for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, then in the shops of the car department till the spring of 1879, since which time he has had charge of the wood department in the engine shop.

GEORGE FORSYTH is a native of England, born in the year 1842. When twelve years of age, he came to Canada, learned the machinist's trade at Hamilton, and in 1865, removed to Syracuse, New York. Brainerd has claimed him for a resident since 1876, he being employed in the machine shops of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. In July, 1881, he accepted the position of foreman of tools and machinery, in the same shops.

GILBERT T. FENNO was born in the town of Dix, Schuyler county, New York, in 1850. He was reared on a farm, but when young, commenced clerking in mercantile establishments. In 1871, Mr. Fenno entered the employ of the United States Express company, first as clerk, and afterward as route agent, remaining with them for three and a half years. He came to Brainerd in 1879, and





was engaged by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as clerk in the freight department, and since June, 1881, has also been cashier.

ANDREW P. FARRAR was born in Meredith, New Hampshire, in 1827. He learned the machinist trade at the Amoskeag Locomotive Works, at Manchester, remaining with the Company eleven years. In 1857, he removed to Detroit, Michigan, and was engaged as general foreman of locomotives for a year; thence to Milwaukee in the same position on the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien railroad. In 1862, he entered the employ of the Galena and Chicago Union, and two years later, the Michigan Central Company, as master mechanic. In 1872, at the death of A. S. Sweet, Mr. Farrar was appointed Superintendent of the motive power at Michigan City, filling the position till June, 1875. Then, after completing an engagement with the Rockford, Rock Island and St. Louis Railroad Company, he came to Brainerd in December, 1877, and is superintendent of the machine shops of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at this place.

HARMON D. FOLLETT is a native of Bellevue, Ohio, born on the 17th of March, 1838. He graduated at the University at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1862, and from the law department of the same institution, in 1866. Then removed to La Salle, Illinois, and practiced his profession six years, when, on account of poor health, he was obliged to give up business for a time. After returning to Ann Arbor and residing three years, Mr. Follett came to Brainerd, in 1872, and for four years carried on a dairy. In the spring of 1880, he was appointed storekeeper for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Has been Judge of Probate for the past four years, and filled various town offices since his residence here.

WILLIAM FERRIS, a native of New York, came to Brainerd in 1872, as agent for the United States Express Company. Was with the company till January, 1880, when the business went into the hands of the Northern Pacific Express Company, and our subject started the Bank of Brainerd, which is about to become a National Bank, with Mr. Ferris as President.

ED. R. FRENCH is the eldest son of A. R. French, who was born in the state of New York, on the 25th of November, 1802. He came to Minnesota in 1834, and was a soldier in the Regular Army, stationed at Fort Snelling. In 1836, he married Mary Ann Henry, a direct descendant of Patrick Henry, and was soon after ordered away

on duty. His wife returned to her home in Ohio, where our subject was born on the 24th of January, 1838. In June, 1842, she, with her son returned to her husband at Fort Snelling. The father remained in service till 1848, when he engaged in farming, between St. Paul and the Fort, till the spring of 1849; then lived in St. Paul till 1853. In the latter year, he removed to Dakota county, of which he was the first Sheriff. He served in the civil war, as did also the subject of this sketch. In 1867, Mr. French, Sen. received an appointment in the Auditor's department at Washington, D. C., which position he still fills. Ed. R., has spent his life in Minnesota, and since 1872, been a resident of Brainerd. Has since kept a house of public entertainment, and is at present proprietor of the new "Le Bon Ton." He is a member of the board of County Commissioners.

JOHN GORST was born in St. Johns, New Brunswick, on the 22d of February, 1838. After becoming a man, he engaged in farming and lumbering in his native place till 1855, when he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Bellevue township. In 1858, he returned to the East, as far as Maine, where he enlisted in Company A, of the Thirteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry. Served as Color-Sergeant, and at the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, won a recommendation from the commanding officer for meritorious conduct. In January, 1865, he was discharged, and the following fall returned to Minnesota and located on a farm in Belle Prairie, but devoted most of his time to lumbering. In October, 1880, he came to his present location, Gorst's Mill, and began the manufacture of lumber. Miss Lorinda M. Coe, daughter of Rev. O. A. Coe, who was formerly a missionary at Red Lake, and now residing at Belle Prairie, became his wife on the 25th of August, 1864. The ceremony occurred at Oberlin, Ohio, during Mr. Gorst's army life, while absent from his regiment on furlough. The union has been blessed with six children.

JOHN GIBB is a native of Scotland, born in the year 1837. He came to America in 1867, and located at Syracuse, New York, where he was employed in the railroad shops ten years. Since 1877, he has filled the position of foreman of the boiler shops of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at Brainerd.

HENRY G. GROSS, a son of Henry Gross, who for many years has been a merchant at Red Wing



was born in Goodhue county, in this State, and came to Brainerd in 1880. Until August, 1881, he was in the employ of Mr. Schwartz; then, in company with his father, bought out the establishment, which they conduct under the firm name of H. Cross & Son. The son attends to this business while the father is still in Red Wing. The stock in this place amounts to about \$10,000, carrying a line of dry goods, clothing, etc.

B. F. HARTLEY is a native of York county, New Brunswick, born on the 11th of April, 1850. He has been a resident of Brainerd since the fall of 1871, spending the first two years as chief clerk in the mercantile establishment of H. A. Hills & Co. Then, in company with Major James Whitehead, took the contract for surveying the Leech Lake and White Oak Point Indian Reservations. In the spring of 1875, our subject entered into a contract with the Post-office department to carry the mail from this place to Leech Lake, which duty he faithfully performed five years, establishing a stage line and putting the first Concord coach on the road. In the fall of 1875, he was elected Probate Judge of Cass county, and for the past five years, has been extensively engaged in the lumber business, and has sold over half a million dollars worth of general merchandise in three years. Mr. Hartley built the first Brick building in Brainerd, it being known as the Hartley Block.

JOSEPH W. HICKS was born in Xenia, Ohio, on the 25th of December, 1848. He came to Brainerd in 1874, and was employed in the Headquarters Hotel till June, 1881, when he opened a billiard hall, which he still conducts.

JOHN R. HOWES, M. D., a son of Rev John Howes, was born in the town of Richmond, Canada, on the 15th of October, 1848. He received his education at the Victoria College, of Toronto, at which he graduated on the 6th of March, 1871. For one year, he was a resident physician at the Toronto Hospital, then removed to Indiana, where he practiced his profession till March, 1879, when he came to Brainerd. In 1880, the Northern Pacific Railroad Company erected a hospital for the benefit of the injured on the road, and aside from his regular practice, Dr. Howes is surgeon of the latter. He is also United States Examiner for pensions.

LEWIS HENDRICKSON was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1843. He removed to Titusville, Pennsylvania, where he learned the trade of a gun-

smith, at which he worked till 1872. Then went to Ohio and opened a gun shop, which he carried on four years, after which he entered the employ of a publishing house, remaining three years. Was traveling salesman one year, and during the year 1880, was employed in a machine shop at Cleveland. In February, 1881, Mr. Hendrickson came to Brainerd and opened a gun shop, which he still operates.

MICHAEL HAGBERG is a native of Sweden, born in 1851. He came to America and directly to Brainerd in 1872. The first four years he was employed at his trade, then, in 1876, opened a blacksmith shop of his own, it being the only one in the place.

G. W. HOLLAND is a native of New York. He received his education at the Madison University, Wisconsin, where he graduated in 1868, and the following year, was admitted to the Bar of that State. He came to Minnesota in 1871, was admitted to the Bar of this State, and in the fall of the same year, elected County Attorney of Crow Wing county, which office he has since filled with the exception of one year. Soon after coming to Brainerd, in 1872, he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board of Supervisors, and has held different offices, such as member of the board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, etc.

CHARLES L. HEATH was born in Lincoln, Maine, on the 12th of December, 1856. He was reared on a farm, and the year 1877 was spent in the lumber business in Michigan. He came to Brainerd in 1878, and the following year, in company with G. H. Stratton, rented the Leland House, of which they are at present the proprietors.

WILLIAM H. JONES was born in 1847, in England. He came to America in 1871, and until April, 1880, was in the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad Company. Since the latter date he has been chief clerk in the roadmaster's department at Brainerd.

EDGAR E. JONES dates his nativity in Clinton county, New York, on the 12th of September, 1846. He came to Minnesota in 1856, locating in Austin, where he remained till November, 1863, and enlisted in the Second Minnesota Cavalry. Was at Fort Ripley the winter of 1863-64, and the following season accompanied Snlly's expedition across the plains. After serving three years, he returned to his native State, and in 1876, came again to Minnesota, locating at Lansing. In 1879, Mr. Jones took his present homestead, which is





situated about four and a half miles from Fort Ripley Station. Was married in Hamilton county, New York, on the 18th of May, 1868, to Miss Mary N. Morrison, who has borne him five children, four of whom are living.

ALBION K. P. KNOWLES was born in Maine, in 1827. He served four years in the war, first in the Second, then the Twenty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Came to Minnesota in 1866, resided one year in Rochester, thence to Meeker county on a farm eighteen months, then, after living in St. Cloud and Sauk Rapids, he came to Brainerd in July, 1877. Has, since his residence here, been engaged in teaming.

J. H. KOOP was born in Hanover, Enrope, on the 8th of February, 1851. He came to America and located in Stearns county, Minnesota, in 1869, where he attended St. John's College. Came to Brainerd in 1880, and as a partner of Joseph H. Linnemann, one of the early settlers of Minnesota, started in the mercantile business, under the firm name of Linnemann and Koop, the former being in business at St. Joseph, Stearns county. They also have branch stores at New Munich and Sauk Rapids. The one in this place was opened in the summer of 1880, and carries a stock of about \$25,000.

LEON E. LUM was born in Anoka, Anoka county, Minnesota, on the 21st of May, 1859. He received his education at the High School and State University at Minneapolis, after which, he studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1880. Since July, 1881, Mr. Lum has been a resident of Brainerd, practicing his profession.

HENRY E. LELAND is a native of Penobscot county, Maine, born on the 18th of October, 1849. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in 1867, came to Monticello, Minnesota, where, for ten years, he was engaged in the lumber business. In 1877, he removed to this place and has since been engaged in the hotel business. Since the spring of 1881, Mr. Leland has been the owner and proprietor of the Nicollet House, which is a two-and-a-half story frame house, with twenty-four guest rooms.

SAMUEL LELAND, also a native of Maine, was born on the 6th of June, 1844. He has always followed farming until coming to Brainerd, in 1876. Since living here has been engaged in the saloon and restaurant business.

WARREN H. LELAND was born in Chester, Penobscot county, Maine, on the 18th of August,

1837. He resided on a farm until twenty-two years of age, when he went to New Brunswick and engaged in mercantile pursuits. Returning to the States, he came to Monticello, Minnesota, in 1866, and was in the lumber business till coming to Brainerd in March, 1872. For about six months after coming, Mr. Leland was engaged in the manufacture of railroad ties, then built the Leland House, of which he was proprietor till July, 1880, then rented it, and in 1881, sold to W. W. Hartley. In 1877-78, our subject, in connection with the hotel, was engaged in lumbering, and also carried on a store of general merchandise; but on account of poor health, was obliged to suspend business for a time. Is at present dealing in real estate. Has filled the office of County Commissioner two terms, besides other local positions. Miss Ellen Young, of York county, New Brunswick, became his wife on the 30th of July, 1859.

HARRY LOWELL was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1840. He removed to Kenosha, Wisconsin, in 1854, thence to Illinois, where he was employed in an iron foundry for three years. Came to Wabasha county, Minnesota, in 1858, and settled on a farm. Served in the war four years and returned to Wabasha county. From 1868 to 1874, he was working at his trade in Minneapolis. Then entered the employ of the Southern Minnesota Railroad Company, remained four years, and after living in La Crosse, Wisconsin, about two years, came to Brainerd in March, 1880, and has since had charge of the foundry of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at this place.

ALBERT E. LOSEY dates his birth on the 5th of October, 1849, at Galesburg, Illinois, where he learned the upholstering trade. He was engaged at his trade in Nelson, Pennsylvania, a few months, then in Buffalo and Addison, New York, after which he returned to Pennsylvania and remained five years. For one year he was traveling for a Philadelphia publishing house, and after residing in Iowa a year, took a trip to Florida, and in August, 1879, came to Brainerd. Has since been superintendent of the upholstery department of the Northern Pacific Railroad shops.

JOHN MCCLARY was born in Ireland in the year 1840. When quite young he came to America, and after living in Marshall, Michigan, until 1859, set out for California, and spent nine years in the mines on the Pacific slope. He then returned to Marshall, and engaged in the hotel business, until 1878, when he came to Brainerd and purchased the



Metropolitan Hotel, changing its name to the Marshall House, as it is now known.

LAWRENCE McPHERSON, foreman of the round-house of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, at Brainerd, is a native of Scotland, and was born in 1843. He came to America in 1869, and after three years employment in Chicago, came to St. Paul and worked for the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company for some time. In 1873, he came to Brainerd, and has since occupied his present position.

DANIEL S. MOOERS, one of the prominent early settlers of the upper Mississippi Valley, was born in Kennebec county, Maine, on the 19th of February, 1837. In the spring of 1852, he came to Minnesota with a cousin of his father, Josiah P. Mooers, who was an early settler in Cokato, Wright county. The first four or five years in the West, were spent at Minneapolis and St. Paul, mostly engaged in the lumber business. He then came to Crow Wing, and about two months later, to the Chippewa Agency at Gull River, where he lived about eight years, being employed by the Government a portion of the time, and was also in the cattle trade. In 1866, he purchased a farm opposite Fort Ripley, of S. B. Olmstead, which had been opened before the establishment of the Reservation, and was the first farm cultivated in Crow Wing county. When the old stage line was running, this was one of their stopping places, and when the Fort was abandoned, Mrs. Mooers was commissioned Postmistress. Mr. Mooers owns a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres with valuable improvements. His wife was Miss Martha Root, of Little Falls, the marriage taking place on the 18th of January, 1877.

WIGGO MADSON dates his birth in Denmark, in the year 1853. He came to America in 1876, and after remaining a short time at Menomonee, Wisconsin, came to Minneapolis, and was employed at his trade, that of shoemaker, in different portions of the State, until coming to Brainerd in 1878. Mr. Madson has established himself in business here, and has a prosperous trade.

MILTON McFADDEN is one of the rising men of Crow Wing county. He came here less than two years ago, and is now acceptably filling the position of Deputy Auditor.

NEWTON McFADDEN, a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, was born in the year 1850. He learned the drug business in early life, and has

followed that profession ever since. He went to Duluth, Minnesota, in 1870, and after clerking in a drug store for eighteen months, went to Detroit Lake, Becker county, and eight months later, came to Brainerd and was clerk in Mr. Sherwood's drug store until 1874, when he purchased the business and still carries it on. He was elected to the office of County Treasurer in the fall of 1874, and has been retained in that position ever since, faithfully discharging the duties devolving upon him.

PETER MERTZ was born in Auglaise county, Ohio, in the year 1851. When he was young, the family removed to Hancock county, where Peter was reared on a farm. In 1875, he came to Mille Laes Lake, Crow Wing county, and kept a trading post there for two years, coming thence to Brainerd, where he now carries on the business of a livery stable. He has been Sheriff of Crow Wing county since January, 1880.

JOHN A. McCALL was born in Canada on the 6th of July, 1859. He learned the art of photography in his native country, where he remained till twenty-one years of age. In February, 1880, he went to Winnipeg, and in March, 1881, came to Brainerd, and is now conducting business in the line of his chosen profession.

WILLIAM E. MARTIN is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born on the 2d of August, 1850. At the age of nineteen years, he left home and entered the marine service on the Missouri river, remaining until April, 1876. He then came to Brainerd, and the May following went to Perlum, Otter Tail county, and had charge of the machinery in the mills of Clark & McClure at that place for three years. He returned to Brainerd in July, 1879, and opened the Fifth Street Billiard Parlor and Sample Room, which he still conducts.

ANTON MAHLUM was born in Norway in the year 1849. He came to America in 1869, and after three years spent in the lumber yards at Minneapolis, came to Brainerd and has lived here ever since. During the first three years of his residence, he was employed in various occupations, being Deputy Sheriff a portion of the time. In the spring of 1875, he was employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as car repairer, and in the fall was given the position of assistant store-keeper and time-keeper for the shops, which he held four years, and on the death of C. E. Williams, succeeded to the position occupied by him, that of chief clerk in the machinery department. Mr. Mahlum has recently completed a





hotel for the accommodation of the railroad employees. It is 26x80 feet, and three stories high, with a wing 26x40 feet, and contains seventy sleeping rooms.

ALLEN MORRISON, deceased, was one of Minnesota's earliest pioneers. He was one of a family of twelve, seven boys and five girls. His father was born in Scotland, but emigrated to Canada, where he died in 1812. Two of the boys were in the English navy, and killed at the battle of Trafalgar, in Egypt. William Morrison, a brother of Allen, and several years his senior, was among the early explorers of Northern Minnesota, having visited the territory as early as 1800, and was one of the party who discovered Lake Itasca, the source of the Mississippi river. Allen's first visit to this region was in 1820, when he came to Fond du Lac, as a trader in what was then known as the "Northern Outfit." For several years he was associated with his brother William, in the Fond-du Lac department, during which time he was stationed at Sandy Lake, Leech Lake, Red Lake, Mille Lacs, and Crow Wing, and when the Indians were removed to White Earth, went there also, and remained until his death. He was married in 1826, to Miss Charlotte Chaboudier, who died at Crow Wing in the fall of 1872. She was a daughter of a member of the old Northwestern Fur Company, who was a trader on the Saskatchewan, and died in Canada in 1812. Mr. Morrison was the father of eleven children. Caroline now resides in Brainerd; she was born at Crow Wing, where her father was the first settler, on the 28th of April, 1846; and was married to Chris. Grandemyer in April, 1864. She removed to Brainerd in 1873, where she is now doing a prosperous business as Milliner and Dressmaker. Besides Mrs. G., there are five other members of the family in the State; Rachel, who resides with her sister, Mrs. Grandemyer, at Brainerd; John J. and Allen, at White Earth; Mary, the eldest, now Mrs. J. R. Sloan, of St. Cloud; and Louisa, now Mrs. John Bromley, of Northern Pacific Junction. Until the spring immediately preceding his death, Mr. Morrison was in the enjoyment of his usual health and strength, but with the retreat of winter, his sons were paid to notice that steady, but unmistakable decline that presages final dissolution, and on the 28th of November, 1878, the battle of life was ended, and the old frontiersman was at rest. He was buried at White Earth, in the historic valley where he had passed so many

eventful years. His name, however, will not perish, nor his virtues be forgotten. In the first Territorial Legislature, he represented the district embracing the voting precincts of Sank Rapids and Crow Wing, and when the present county of Morrison was set off, the Legislature named it in honor of this esteemed veteran pioneer.

JOHN McNAUGHTON, foreman in the blacksmith shop of the Northern Pacific Railroad, at this point, was born in Genesee county, New York, in the year 1839. In 1848, he removed to Michigan with his parents, where he learned the blacksmith trade, and remained until 1866. He then went to Chicago, and two years later, to Dubuth, where he was employed four years by the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Company, and since then, has worked for his present employers.

HENRY MOHLE is a native of Germany, born in the year 1849. He came to America with the family in 1851, who settled in Chicago. At the age of fourteen years, he went to Leland, Illinois, and learned telegraphy with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, remaining there two years. He was then with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company two years and a half, after which he attended school one term, then returned to his old employers and remained until 1872. He then went to Hannibal, Missouri, and after eighteen months service with the Missouri, Kansas, & Texas Railroad Company, returned to the Chicago & Northwestern, and in 1878, came to Brainerd, in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. He is now Chief of the Train Dispatcher's department.

JOHN N. NEVERS is a native of New Brunswick, and came to Brainerd in 1872. Six months after his arrival he engaged in the lumber business, continuing it for four years. He then formed a partnership with B. F. Hartley and kept the Leland House for one year, since which time he has been in the mercantile business. He carries a stock of about \$13,000, consisting of clothing and furnishing goods, and also carries on a merchant tailoring department.

EZRA NORTHFIELD was born in England in the year 1844. When he was five years old, the family came to America and settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1863, the subject of this sketch came to Minnesota, and after a residence of ten years in Lake City, came to Burnhamsville, Todd county. He had a mail contract from the latter place to St. Joseph, Stearns county, but returned to Lake



City in 1874, and was engaged in farming for about two years. He again came to Burnhamsville, and has lived at that place and Brainerd ever since. While a resident of the former place, he was Postmaster and Town Clerk. He came to Brainerd in the spring of 1881, with the intention of making this place his permanent home.

JOHN O'NEILL dates his birth in Steubenville, Jefferson county, Ohio, on the 11th of July, 1827. He learned the trade of stone-cutter when young, followed the business for a number of years, and was afterward employed on the Ohio and Mississippi river boats. He came to Minnesota in 1872, and after living in Lake City, Mankato, and Red Wing, came to Brainerd in 1877, and has lived here ever since. He is the present proprietor of the saloon known as "The Last Turn," in front of which still stands the pine tree on which the two Indians were hung in 1872, for the murder of Miss McArthur.

PETER ORT was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, in the year 1849. He came to Brainerd in 1870, and was employed at the carpenter trade for five years. Was then clerk in the "Headquarters Hotel" until January, 1880, when he opened a billiard hall on the corner of Fifth and Laurel streets, of which he is now the proprietor.

ALEXANDER ORR was born in New Brunswick, in the year 1850. He learned the trade of carpenter and joiner in his native country, which has been his occupation through life. In 1879, he came to Brainerd and engaged in contracting and building. In April, 1881, William E. Seelye became a partner, and they are now doing a profitable business, employing an average of ten men.

W. A. PARSONS, M. D., is a native of Worthington, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, and was born on the 31st of March, 1857. He prepared for college, and graduated at Harvard on the 30th of June, 1880. After a few months practice at Athol, Massachusetts, he came to Brainerd, arriving in March, 1881, and has since been in the active practice of his profession.

GEORGE R. PERLEY dates his birth in Michigan, on the 19th of March, 1848. When a child, the family came to Lake City, Minnesota, where the subject of this brief sketch was reared on a farm. In 1867, he went to Wyandotte City, Kansas, and learned the carriage maker's trade, residing there until 1873. Then came to Minnesota, and after living on a farm in Todd county for four years, came to Brainerd; was employed at

his trade until the spring of 1881, since which time he has conducted business on his own account.

REUBEN H. PAINE was born in Victory, Cayuga county, New York, on the 27th of November, 1846. At the age of eighteen years he went to McHenry county, Illinois, and after a residence of four years there, came to Lake City, Minnesota, and was farming there for two years. His next move was to Long Prairie, Todd county, where he conducted the grocery business until 1872, when he came to Brainerd, and after six years of active business, went to Little Falls and engaged in the mercantile business, but returned again to Brainerd after one year. He then formed a partnership with his brother, K. S. Paine, and J. C. Flynn, the firm being known as Paine Brothers & Flynn, wholesale and retail dealers in live stock and dressed meats.

JOHN C. ROSSER, M. D., was born at Lynchburg, Virginia, on the 2d of December, 1840. After taking the usual preparatory course he entered the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, where he graduated in 1867. Prior to his graduation he had served four years in the army during the civil war, in the Twenty-eighth Texas Volunteers, two years as hospital steward, and two years as assistant surgeon. Returning from college he settled in his native town, where he practiced his profession until coming to Brainerd in 1871, and still continues in active practice. He has held the office of Coroner since 1873, and is highly respected in the neighborhood.

GEORGE H. STRATTON is a native of Chester, Maine, born in the year 1835. When he was fifteen years old, he became engaged with his father in the hotel business, continuing until twenty-one years of age, when he became proprietor of the Five Island House, in the town of Winn, Penobscot county. In 1861, he enlisted in the Eleventh Maine Volunteer Infantry, as a private, but was soon after promoted to Second Lieutenant, but discharged on account of ill health, after one year's service. Returning to Maine he again engaged in the hotel business, in connection with lumbering, carrying on the same until 1865, when he entered the employ of Henry Poore & Son, who had an extensive tan-yard in the town of Winn. In 1874, he removed to Michigan, and was in the lumber business until 1879, when he came to Brainerd, and after conducting the lumber business about a year, formed a partnership with Charles L. Heath.





They are now the popular proprietors of the Leland House.

SYLVESTER V. R. SHERWOOD was born in Connecticut in the year 1822. He grew to manhood in New England, and in 1870, came to Minnesota, and was employed in the construction department of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He run the second regular train for that company, and acted as conductor until December, 1872. He then engaged in the drug business for a time, but subsequently changed to books and stationery, and smokers' supplies, in which line he still continues.

WILLIAM P. SPALDING is a native of Lowell, Massachusetts, and was born on the 1st of November, 1823. He was reared on a farm, and when twenty-seven years of age was employed as conductor on the Rutland & Washington Railroad, where he continued until 1861; when he enlisted in the Fifth Vermont Infantry, holding the offices of Lieutenant and Captain, and serving three years. In 1865, he went to Illinois and was farming for five years. He came to Minnesota in 1870, and went to work in the construction department of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and was the conductor of the first train over that road. This was a special from Duluth to Brainerd on the 11th of March, 1871; he also run the first regular train in September of the same year. He run the first regular train on their line from St. Paul, on the 1st of November, 1877, and was conductor until April, 1881, when the company were pleased to reward his faithful services by tendering him the appointment of claim agent.

GEORGE STEVENSON was born in Canada in the year 1853. When a boy he commenced working in a store, and on arriving at maturity, engaged in mercantile business on his own account. He came to Brainerd in the spring of 1881, and purchased the grocery and provision business of Mr. Hartley, which he still prosperously continues.

W. A. SMITH is a native of Franklin county, New York, where he was reared until eighteen years of age, when he went to Syracuse and attended school for some time. He was then employed as clerk in various mercantile houses until September, 1874, when he came to Brainerd and entered the employ of Mr. Bly, and became a partner the following spring. H. A. Campbell purchased the interest of Mr. Bly soon after, and the business was conducted by Smith & Campbell until March, 1880, when Mr. Campbell retired from the firm. Subsequently, Mr. Smith formed

a partnership with W. E. Campbell, under the firm name of H. A. Smith & Co. Their business is quite extensive, carrying a stock of \$20,000, and employing four salesmen.

WILLIAM E. SEELYE dates his birth at St. George, New Brunswick, on the 22d of July, 1847. When a child, the family came to Minnesota, and after remaining in Minneapolis one year, went to Anoka. William resided with his parents until fifteen years of age, when he enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. He returned to Anoka and learned the carpenter trade, which he followed in that vicinity until 1879, and removed to Gull River, where he carried on a door, sash, and blind factory until the spring of 1881. He then came to Brainerd and formed a partnership with Alexander Orr, the company doing a general business as contractors and builders.

DANIEL D. SMITH was born in Franklin county, New York in 1848. He went to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1869, and was engaged in the grocery business there for ten years. Then came to Brainerd and established a business in the same line, which he is now conducting.

DAVID E. SLIPP is a native of New Brunswick, and was reared on a farm in his native province. He came to Brainerd in 1871, and carried on a grocery business till June 1880, when he opened a hardware store, and is still in the business.

FRED J. SLIPP is also a native of New Brunswick, and is a brother of the subject of our last sketch. He came to Brainerd in 1879, and was engaged in the grocery business until the spring of 1881; but since then, has been with his brother in the hardware business.

FRANK B. THOMPSON dates his birth in Portland, Maine, in the year 1852. He came to Minnesota in 1869, and after a stay of six months in Duluth, engaged in the construction department of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and was afterward in the land department until the removal of that office to St. Paul, in 1880. Mr. Thompson has been a resident of Brainerd since 1873; six years of the time he was Register of Deeds of Crow Wing county, and since 1880, has held the office of County Auditor.

SETH C. TENNIS is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in the year 1826. At the age of seventeen years he was employed in a grocery store in Philadelphia, remaining there for eight years. He then came to Minnesota, and was agent



for the town-site company at Wabasha for some time, but subsequently engaged in farming, and in 1864, obtained the position of mail agent on the Mississippi river steamboats. In 1870, he went to Duluth, and was employed by the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company as book-keeper in the supply department of the Duluth division. He was afterwards employed as Station Agent at the Northern Pacific Junction, and in 1872, came to Brainerd and was book-keeper in a mercantile establishment for one year; after which he carried on a farm until 1879, and has since been in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, as time-keeper. Mr. Tennis resides across the river in Cass county, at and during the period of that county's organization, was Register of Deeds and Treasurer.

LOUIS TACNE, telegraph operator at the shops of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, was born in Canada in 1857. He came to Minnesota in 1876, and after remaining a few months in St. Paul, went to the Northern Pacific Junction in the employ of the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad Company, and thence to Rush City, and in April, 1881, came to Brainerd and was installed in his present position.

EDWARD WHITE was born in Pomfret, Connecticut, on the 4th of April, 1812. He learned the carpenter trade in his native town, and at the age of twenty years, went to Worcester, Massachusetts, and engaged in building for four years. He then went to Tazewell county, Illinois, which was his home until 1860, when he came to Minnesota. He lived at Glencoe three years, and then went to Franconia, on the St. Croix river, where he was Postmaster five years. He came to Brainerd in July, 1870, and was in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for several years. He is now carrying on the business of contractor and builder, his son Isaac being a partner.

GEN. LYMAN P. WHITE is appropriately denominated the "Father of Brainerd," by its inhabitants; while the Indians throughout this entire region call him the "Big White Father." He is a man of a powerful frame, six feet high, broad shoulders, corpulent, and of a remarkably fine physique. Born in Whiting, Vermont, in 1811, and one of a family of eleven children. His father was a revolutionary soldier, and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. Soon after peace was declared he became one of the earliest settlers of Vermont, after whom Whiting was named. Gen.

White's early advantages were only equal to the majority of New England's sons of that day; but his natural ability, quick perception, and sound common sense placed him in the foremost ranks in business or political circles. He soon became a leader in his State. For several years he was a member of the State Legislature, and at various times declined important positions offered him by the United States Government, choosing rather a business than a political life. He has been married twice; first to Phoebe Keeler, who had six children, now grown to manhood and womanhood; after her decease, to Jennie Knight, who came with him, the first white woman, to Brainerd. They have one daughter, Miss Jennie, who for two years was the only white child in the place, and until old enough to be sent east to boarding schools, was taught by her mother when a governess could not be obtained. Gen. White came to Chicago in 1859, entering largely into business there, and in the year 1870 came to Brainerd as the general agent of the Lake Superior and Puget Sound Company, with Thomas Canfield as president, which position he still retains. He laid out the townsites of Brainerd and the other places on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and is more closely identified with this locality than any other man. He has always been a friend to the poor, and especially adapted to the building up of this growing country; full of sympathy, ready to aid with a liberal hand, and wise in counsel to those who are seeking homes in the Northwest. He lives in the confidence and esteem of communities extending for hundreds of miles westward.

His beautiful and spacious residence in Brainerd was the first frame dwelling house in the place; the wing built at that time is now his office. The lumber was drawn by teams, a distance of seventy miles, about one year and six months prior to the completion of the railroad to this point. Their first Christmas dinner in this house was an eventful one. Distinguished guests were present, consisting mostly of the eastern capitalists interested in the construction of the railroad. At great trouble and expense, turkeys, chickens, oysters, and all delicacies that eastern markets afforded had been secured for the occasion. Mrs. White, the esteemed hostess, had spared no pains in preparing the menu in the most tempting manner. When ready, she left the dining room for a few moments, and returned escorting the guests, when to her amazement, found that during her absence, the Indians,





who had skulked about the premises, had improved this favorable opportunity, and cleared the table of its contents. It can be better imagined than described, the feelings of all interested, as they were waiting while another dinner was prepared consisting of bacon, hominy, and wild rice. General White has been very successful in the management of the Indians, never armed and never suffering annoyances from them, save their petty thieving. During the time he was Mayor of Brainerd, he had an ordinance passed, that all Indians found within the city limits after dark should be locked up within a building prepared for that purpose, and the people were freed from the night prowlings and hideous whoops that would have otherwise disturbed their slumbers. General and Mrs. White have done much toward moulding the christian sentiment of the place, he being a leader in the Episcopal church, and she entering into the work with

earnestness and almost single handed, until now a flourishing society and an imposing church edifice stands as a monument to their labors. Their house has ever been a home of hospitality, and from their larder has charity been generously dispensed.

EUGENE M. WESTFALL, ticket and freight agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad at this point, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on the 1st of December, 1848. When a child, his parents removed to Hannibal, where he was engaged with his father in the lumber business until twenty-one years of age. He then entered the employ of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company, as clerk in the construction department. He came to Brainerd in July, 1874, and has been in the employ of this company ever since; first as clerk in the office of the master mechanic, and then in the superintendent's office, coming to his present position in June, 1881.

## AITKIN COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CLII.

#### DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION —VILLAGE OF AITKIN—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Aitkin is situated in the north central part of Minnesota, embracing an area of about two thousand square acres, only a small part of which is yet under cultivation.

The Mississippi river flows through the northwestern part, along which are rich bottom lands covering a belt of about two miles in width, in which is found a heavy growth of hard wood timber. Elsewhere the surface is gently rolling, the north half covered with a dense growth of pine, while in the south half is pine, bass wood, sugar maple, and other hard woods.

The soil is clay and black loam, with an abundance of excellent wild meadow. In the central part are ridges, on which are found poplar and white birch, while intervening are fine tamarack swamps.

Besides the Mississippi, the principal streams are, Willow, Tamarac, Rice, Moose, Hill, Pine, and

Snow rivers, the last two of which are in the southeastern part, the others in the central and northern part. Mille Lacs lake covers about one hundred and eight sections in the southwestern part, lying partly in this and partly in Mille Lacs county. Several smaller lakes are found south of the center, while north of the center is Sandy lake, one of the most historic localities in Northern Minnesota.

Although the present settlement of this county is of comparatively recent date, its first occupancy by white men ante-dates that of many of the most populous counties in the State. Sandy lake was visited by white men, and a trading post established there by the Northwest Company in 1794. Captain Zebulon Montgomery Pike, the first American officer who visited Minnesota in an official capacity, was at this lake in September, 1805. Governor Cass, and others were here in 1819, William Morrison being then in charge of the post. A school was opened here by Rev. Sherman Hall, in 1832, through the solicitation of Mr. Aitkin, for the benefit of the children of voy-



ageurs and a few traders. All this, however, passed away, and the county remained unsettled until the survey of the Northern Pacific railroad.

On the 13th of September, 1870, Nathaniel Tibbetts, then with the surveying party, selected a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in sections twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, and twenty-six, to which he brought his family on the 8th of May, 1871. A few others came in August, among whom were, J. W. Tibbetts, Warren Potter, Richard Mills, George Jenkins, and William Wade, besides a few transient laborers engaged in the construction of the railroad. The road reached this point on the 23d of February, 1871, then halted eighteen days for the completion of a cut near by.

In 1872, the county of Aitkin was organized, and an election held on the 30th of July, at which the following officers were chosen: County Commissioners, N. Tibbetts, Chairman, William Hallstram, and William Wade; Register of Deeds, William Hallstram; Auditor, R. E. Cowell; Attorney, D. C. Preston; Sheriff, James W. Tibbetts; Treasurer, George Clapp; and Coroner, N. Tibbetts. At a meeting of the Board, on the 18th of September, J. H. Van Nett was appointed Justice of the Peace. By a clerical error, or fault in publishing, the books and official documents of the county were printed "Aitken." Although the name adopted was "Aitkin," in honor of Robert Aitkin, a trader and resident of Sandy Lake, in the early part of the present century.

The village of Aitkin is on the Northern Pacific railroad, where Mr. Tibbetts first settled, as already mentioned. It is pleasantly located on, and near the mouth of Ripple creek, so called by the settlers on account of its clear, rippling waters. By some means the Indian name for this stream was interpreted Mud creek, which, however, is ignored by the villagers. Near the present village is an old town site, platted in 1856, and called Ojibway. Its proprietors created quite a furore in eastern localities, sold shares for fabulous prices, but like other ventures of the kind it soon collapsed, never having even a building.

The present village is under an ordinary township government, organized in 1873, with the following officers, elected on the 19th of August: Supervisors, Nathaniel Tibbetts, Chairman, James W. Tibbetts, and Solomon S. Clapp; Clerk, W. H. Williams; Treasurer, George N. Clapp; Assessor, John E. Cronse; Justices of the Peace, James H. Van Nett and W. H. Williams; Constables, Simon

Weaver and George Falconer; and Overseer, Geo. Jenkins.

When the railroad reached this point, a station was established, and a depot building erected in the autumn of 1872, also a water tank, section house, freight house, and an engine house 40x80 feet, which burned the next year and was never rebuilt. In the fall of 1872, Richard Mills opened the first store in the place, in the old claim shanty of Nathaniel Tibbetts. The next year Mr. Tibbetts opened a store, which he conducted about eighteen months, then sold to Clapp & Son. Another store building was erected in the fall of 1873, but used the first year as a saloon by George Jenkins, then by Peak & Wakefield, as an Indian trading post, then as a general store by Knox & Whipple, then Knox Brothers; Knox Brothers & Richardson; Knox Brothers & Dorman, and now (D. J.) Knox & Dorman. The firm are now doing a business amounting to \$200,000 annually, carrying a stock of about \$40,000. Warren Potter has a store, doing about \$75,000 business annually besides his flouring mill, which has a capacity of one hundred barrels in ten hours. In the mill he has a partner, D. Willard.

There are three hotels, three saloons, two blacksmith shops, and one meat market.

The first hotel was built by Nathaniel Tibbetts, the first year of his residence here, and was called the Ojibway House. The next year he built a larger house, of hewed logs, sided and lathed and plastered inside. The next hotel was opened in May, 1875, by Mrs. Nellie Whipple, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere. This house burned in 1879, and in the February following, Mrs. Whipple opened another, called the Whipple House, which she still conducts. In November, 1880, John Crosley, opened the Crosley House, which has been under the management of Joseph Wakefield since the spring of 1881. The Mammoth Hotel was opened in December, 1880, by C. H. Douglas, under whose management it has since been a popular home for travelers.

The village has now about two hundred and fifty inhabitants, and is rapidly developing.

The first school was taught in the summer of 1874, by Miss Belle Lowe, now the wife of Dr. Rosser, of Brainerd. A good school house was built in the fall of 1876, in which school is maintained nine months in the year.

The first religious services were conducted in the old log building first erected by Nathaniel Tib-





betts, in the winter of 1870-71, by a young theological student who was employed by the workmen of the railroad company, for three weeks, preaching evenings and Sundays. Since then, services have been maintained monthly, with slight intermissions, Rev. Mr. Hawley, of Brainerd, officiating for the last year.

The first child born here was Markie, son of Nathaniel and Susan C. Tibbetts, near the close of the year 1872. He died in February following, being the first death here.

The first marriage was that of Robert E. Cowell and Miss M. E. Tibbetts, on the 11th of September, 1873.

Outside of the village, there is but little settlement in the county. A few settlers are located at the mouth of Willow river, and a few have homes at Sandy Lake.

A Post-office was established at the village in September, 1872, and mail, by trains, is supplied daily. In 1873, a steamboat, the "Po-keg-u-ma," was built to run between this point and Pokeguma Falls. In the fall of 1878 it was destroyed by fire, and the next season replaced by the steamer "City of Aitkin," which is still in use, under command of Captain Houghton.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

CARL H. DOUGLAS is a native of Lower Canada, born in the year 1848. In 1859, he came, with his parents, to Minneapolis, Minnesota, remaining five years. Then, after teaming about ten years in Rockford, he came to this place in 1874, and purchased the Aitkin House, to which he made several additions and conducted till its destruction by fire in the fall of 1880. Mr. Douglas at once set about the erection of a new hotel, and eventually opened to the traveling public, the Douglas House, which was built at a cost of \$8,000, and contains fifty-six rooms for the accommodation of guests.

EDWARD L. DOUGLAS was born in Canada in 1848. He came to the United States in 1867, and engaged in the lumber business at Rockford, Wright county. He came to Aitkin in 1876, and has since been engaged in the lumber and hotel business. He is a partner with Knox Brothers in the lumber business.

DORANCE H. DORMAN, son of D. B. Dorman, one of the early settlers of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born in the latter city on the 1st of April, 1856. He grew to manhood in his native place,

being engaged with Merriman & Barrows, lumber dealers, for five years. He is a member of the firm of Knox & Dorman, having formed the partnership in March, 1881.

CHARLES N. HOWE dates his birth in the state of New York, on the 17th of May, 1835. He learned the carpenter trade when a young man, and followed that occupation in the West and South for a number of years. He was in Georgia at the breaking out of the civil war, and, for some time, was unable to get north. Seizing the first opportunity, however, he crossed the lines and enlisted in the Northern navy, serving three years on the flag ship "Minnesota," of the North Atlantic blockading squadron. Mr. Howe came to Minnesota in 1870, and after remaining one year in Minneapolis, came to Aitkin and engaged in the lumber business. In the spring of 1880, he opened a blacksmith and wood shop, and does quite an extensive business in the building of bateaux.

DANIEL J. KNOX is a native of Beloit, Wisconsin, and was born on the 26th of August, 1849. When he was a child the family removed to Dell Prairie, Wisconsin, where David grew to manhood on his father's farm. At the age of nineteen years, he went to Sparta and attended the Commercial College at that place eighteen months going thence to Eau Claire as general manager in the mercantile house of Jackson Brothers. After spending from one to three years each in Eau Claire, Elroy, and Idaho, in the mercantile business, he came to Aitkin and opened a general store in a small building 24x30 feet. His brother, G. W. Knox, afterwards became a partner, who has recently been superseded by D. H. Dorman. Large stores have been erected, and the business has become quite extensive, amounting, in 1880, to upwards of \$225,000. They have also a branch store at Grand Rapids, Itasca county, which does an annual business of \$30,000. Mr. Knox, in company with his brother, G. W., and E. L. Douglas, are constructing a saw-mill, which, when completed, will have a daily capacity of fifty thousand feet, besides lath, shingles, etc.

EDWIN B. LOWELL was born in Abbott, Maine, in March, 1833. He was reared in his native State, and in 1855, came to Minnesota and settled in Champlin, Hennepin county, where he was engaged in farming three years. He then followed lumbering until the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. Returning from



the army he again engaged in lumbering, and still follows that occupation. His field of labor is on the Swan river, where he banks a large number of logs each winter, employing about thirty men.

SAMUEL S. LUTHER dates his birth in Pennsylvania in the year 1850. When a young man his time was divided between clerking in a store and the lumber business. He came to Minnesota in 1873, and was employed at lumbering for three years, after which he spent some time at the carpenter trade, in Aitkin. For the past two and a half years he has been clerk in the store of Knox Brothers; he is also town Clerk and Register of Deeds.

LORING G. SEAVEY was born in East Machias, Maine, in 1847. He came to Minnesota in 1866, and after spending about seven years in the lumber mills at Minneapolis, and in the lumber woods, went to Grand Rapids, Itasca county, and engaged in the hotel business. After spending six years at the latter place, he removed to a point near the mouth of Willow river, where he owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, and carries on a small hotel. His family reside at Aitkin.

CHARLES W. SAWYER is a native of Carlinville, Illinois, and was born in the year 1845. He learned the machinist's trade, and was employed as an engineer on the Mississippi river steamboats until 1866, when he went to Hudson, Wisconsin, and was engaged in the grain trade for three years. Then, after three years spent in farming, went to Duluth, and two years later, engaged in bridge-building on the Northern Pacific Railroad. He soon after returned to Hudson, where he was engineer in a flouring mill until July, 1881, when he came to Aitkin, and has since been employed as engineer in the Northern Pacific roller mills.

CHRISTOPHER C. SUTTON was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, in 1846. The family removed to Stevens Point in 1856, where Christopher resided until the spring of 1881, when he came to Aitkin. He conducted a meat market several years in Stevens Point, and since coming here has carried on a grocery and provision store.

DAVID E. TULL, Station and Express agent for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at this point, was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, in 1852. The family removed to Wisconsin in 1862, which was the home of our subject until 1873, when he engaged with his present employers and went to Perlman. He has occupied his present position since the spring of 1880.

WILLIAM L. WAKEFIELD, one of the pioneers in this section of the State, was born in Cherryfield, Washington county, Maine, in the year 1833. He learned the trade of millwright in his native State, and in 1854, came to Minneapolis, and was employed in the mills at that place for eighteen months. He then came to the frontier and established trading posts at Sandy Lake and Pokegama Falls, and also engaged in lumbering on the Swan river until 1861, when he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. On being discharged he came to Crow Wing and opened a trading post, besides having a post at each of his former locations. In 1871, he went to White Earth, and two years later, engaged in lumbering, continuing that occupation until 1878, when he opened a hotel and trading post at Grand Rapids, Itasca county. In June, 1881, he came to Aitkin, and in company with his brother Joseph, is now keeping the Wakefield House. Joseph was born in 1835, and came west about two years later than his brother, and has been identified with him in most of his business enterprises since.

MRS. NELLIE WHIPPLE, nee De Reo, to whose remarkably retentive memory the authors of this work are indebted for much valuable historic data, was born in Ohio, on the 17th of August, 1839. Her birthplace was near the old city of Maumee, where she lived until nine years of age. Her father, Louis De Reo, died when she was about two years old, and her mother, four years later. In 1848, the subject of this sketch removed with relatives to what is now Green Lake county, Wisconsin, and soon after went to Madison, where she received a good education. In 1854, she came with friends to St. Paul, taking passage on the steamer Itasca, at La Crosse. She resided in St. Paul the next two years, during which time she visited the valley of the upper Mississippi several times. In 1856, she went to live with Mrs. Hattie Whipple at St. Anthony, widow of Joseph Whipple, an early pioneer whose interment was the second in the St. Anthony cemetery. Mrs. Whipple resided with her son Henry, who kept the American House, and to whom Nellie was united in marriage on the 5th of November, 1857. The young couple remained in the American House until 1867, when they removed to Crow Wing and opened the Northern House which they conducted till May, 1875, and removed to Aitkin, opening the Whipple House, of which





Mrs. Whipple is now the hostess. Mr. Whipple died on the 11th of February, 1879. He had led an active life, and been honored with many public offices, being almost constantly in some official position. He was the prime mover in the organization of Crow Wing county, and the first Chairman of the board of County Commissioners. During the last fifteen years of his life, he was a great sufferer from rheumatism. He had used every means of relief in vain, including a visit to the Hot Springs in Arkansas. His body was placed beside the remains of his father in the old cemetery at St. Anthony. They had been blessed with three children, all of whom are living.

NATHANIEL TIBBETTS, the first permanent settler of Aitkin county, was born in New Sharon, Maine, on the 21st of March, 1824. Leaving his native State in 1847, he came westward and located in Plover, Wisconsin, and after remaining there one year, came to the St. Croix river and was engaged in lumbering until June, 1850. He then came to Minnesota, and passing through St. Paul and St. Anthony, came to Elk River, and was among the first to make improvements at that point. He followed lumbering there until August, 1862, when he assisted in the organization of Company A, of

the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, receiving a Lieutenant's commission. After a little more than a year's service, he was commissioned Quartermaster and retained that position until he was mustered out at St. Paul in August, 1865. Returning to his home at Elk River he gave his attention to farming and stock-raising until July, 1870, when he joined the Northern Pacific survey from Duluth westward, and when the present site of Aitkin was reached, being favorably impressed with the locality, he decided upon this as his future home, and in May, 1871, removed his family here. He built the first house at Aitkin, which was the first in the county, also, the first hotel and first store, and was the first Postmaster. He was Chairman of the first board of County Commissioners, has been Register of Deeds, and in the fall of 1879, was elected Sheriff. Mr. Tibbetts was married on the 5th of August, 1855, at Elk River, to Miss Susan C. Davis, of that place, who died at Aitkin on the 10th of January, 1876. They had eight children, six of whom are living. Those deceased were named Markie and Etta; the former dying in February, 1873, and the latter on the 10th of January, 1875.

## CASS COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CLIII.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY HISTORY—CHIPPEWA AGENCIES—ORGANIZATION—GULL RIVER STATION—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Cass county occupies a large, almost level area in the northern portion of the State, portions of which are frequently mentioned in the previous chapters of this work. It contains some of the finest forests of pine in the Northwest, interspersed with hardwood timber and prairie. On the western margin is the true source of the Mississippi, from which, with myriad others lying within the county limits, the river commences its life. At one point on the river a ledge of granite crops out, over which the water falls about twenty

feet, forming a beautiful cascade known as Granite Falls.

The largest body of water is Leech lake, in the northern part, beyond which, on the extreme northern border, are Cass and Winnibigoshish lakes. Leech lake presents an irregular outline, forming a peninsula opening to the south and east, on which is located the Leech Lake Agency. This is the home of a portion of the Chippewa Indians, this branch now numbering about two thousand.

Here the early missionaries established a school and farm, and the Rev. Mr. Bardwell, who for a time acted as Indian Agent, and was much respected, died. By a typographical error on page 195, he is called Boutwell, conveying the impression that he



was the first missionary at Leech Lake, the Rev. W. T. Boutwell, who is still living near Stillwater, in Washington county. In 1849, the Crow Wing Agency was established, near the mouth of Gull river, and a road cut to the Leech Lake Agency, which was established the same year. This was the first Chippewa Agency in Minnesota. At the first place a saw-mill was built, and at the latter a small grist-mill, both at Government expense. The saw-mill burned after about eight years, and the grist-mill perished from age and neglect. In 1867, J. B. Bassett, now of Minneapolis, took charge of these agencies, remaining until 1870. During this time Mr. Bassett visited Washington with some of the Gull River band, and effected an exchange by which they ceded the twelve townships included in this reservation, for thirty-six sections at White Earth and \$150,000 in cash. Portions of the reservation have since been sold to settlers, and a few farms have been opened, the chief and oldest of which is that of T. H. Mooers, near the present station of Gull River. A few others have opened farms in this part of the county; and B. A. Manters, A. E. Dickinson, and others have opened farms along the Shell river. Although little advance has thus far been made in agriculture, there is a considerable amount of good farming land which will not long remain unoccupied.

Cass county, then including a much larger area, was created in 1851, and in 1872, a county organization was effected; the following officers being appointed by Governor Austin: County Commissioners, Charles Ahrens, Chairman, J. A. Barnard, and G. A. Morrison. Other officers were: Register of Deeds, A. Barnard; Auditor, A. Ruff; Sheriff, C. F. Moores; County Attorney, Thomas Keating; and Coroner, F. F. Keating. The county seat was located in the extreme southeastern part, just opposite Brainerd, where a court house was built on ground donated so long as used for county purposes. Not long after, the county organization was dissolved, and the land, with the buildings, reverted to the original owners.

At the crossing of the Northern Pacific Railroad on Gull river, a village and station have sprung up, where Chase, Pillsbury & Co. have erected a large, elegant lumber mill, and are doing an extensive business in the manufacture of lumber, lath and shingles. They also have an interest in a sash, door, and blind factory, with Horr, Seelye & Co. The mill has a capacity of 80,000 in ten

hours, employing about one hundred and fifty men, and the factory manufactures \$2,000 worth of goods monthly. Both enterprises were started in 1880, the first named company taking the initiative. They also own a large general store, a boarding-house, dry house, a fine office building, and over twenty houses. They have large tracts of pine land on Gull river and lake, having a steamer on the latter for running rafts of logs through on the way to their mill. The railroad station was established here in 1880, with C. E. Woodruff, Agent, who was succeeded in December by the present Agent, W. H. McMillen. A Post-office was also established, with Thomas J. Nary, Postmaster. In the fall of 1880, Miss Minnie Taylor taught the first school, in one of Chase, Pillsbury, & Company's buildings. Since the time mentioned, Rev. R. A. Beard, of Brainerd, has held religious services semi-monthly; and a Sabbath school is maintained. The village owes its origin and growth to the firm first mentioned.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

EZRA BUTLER, a native of Jennings county, Indiana, dates his birth the 10th of March, 1850. He came to Minnesota in September, 1872, and was employed as sealer in the lumber mills at Minneapolis until May, 1880. Since the latter date, he has been a resident of this place, in the employ of Chase, Pillsbury & Co., first in the lumber yard, then in charge of the dry house, and since April, 1881, overseer of the Company's boarding house. Miss Frances Hollister, of Indiana, became his wife on the 1st of October, 1867. They have three children.

JONATHAN CHASE, whose birth dates the 1st of January, 1819, in Sebec, Maine, furnishes an apt illustration of that spirit of energy and perseverance to which this valley owes its present state of development. His first business in his native State was lumbering, to which he has since devoted his energies. He came to the West in 1854, and entered about sixteen thousand acres of pine land on the Chippewa, St. Croix, Minnometon, and Willow rivers in Wisconsin. The following year he came to this State and located at the then scarcely outlined city of Minneapolis, and at once formed a partnership with S. A. Jewett, engaging in the lumber business. The firm lumbered on the Rum river four or five years, then dissolved partnership with immense liabilities. Though legally exempt from liabilities, Mr. Chase sold his Wisconsin





sin land, paid every claim against him in full, and commenced anew. For a time he was in company with Leavitt and Horr, the firm name being Leavitt, Chase & Co.; but in August 1879, entered into the present partnership, the name being Chase, Pillsbury & Co., and by his untiring energy has built up a flourishing business. Mr. Chase was in the lower house of the Territorial Legislature one term, a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and also in the State Senate one term. He was united in marriage with Miss Melissa Pollard in February, 1853. They have had seven children, five of whom are living. Our subject spends most of his time at Gull River Station, the family occupying a pleasant home in East Minneapolis Corner of 7th Street and 6th Avenue South.

CHARLES E. GILL was born on the 20th of June, 1854, in Aurora, Illinois, where he received his education, and graduated from the high school in 1871. He afterwards went to Chicago, engaged in the hardware and notion business, then to Iowa, and thence to Kansas, spending about two years in each place. Five years of his life have been devoted to book-keeping, and his present position with Chase, Pillsbury & Co. is abundant evidence of his proficiency. He went to Minneapolis in about 1879, was employed as scaler, and part of the time as book-keeper till May, 1880, when he came to this place and entered upon his present position. The marriage of Mr. Gill with Miss Ella Thompson occurred on the 22d of September, 1875, in Aurora, Illinois. The union has been blessed with one child.

RENSELAER C. LEAVITT, a native of Cumberland county, Maine, was born on the 15th of May, 1835. His father was a farmer and lumberman, and in these occupations our subject was reared. He removed to Boston soon after attaining his majority, and was associated with his uncle in business. In 1863, he came to Minnesota, locating in St. Anthony, and in company with his father and brother-in-law, engaged in lumbering. In 1873, or '74, under the firm name of Todd, Haven, and Leavitt, commenced the manufacture of lumber at St. Anthony Falls, the firm name afterwards being changed to Leavitt, Chase & Co., and later the mill was sold to Captain John Martin, and the lumber yard to C. D. Haven. Mr. Leavitt then entered the firm of Chase, Pillsbury & Co., of which he is now a member. He was married in Maine, on the 31st of August, 1859, to Miss Annette Barker. They had one child, who died in

infancy. Mr. Leavitt's home is in East Minneapolis, No. 425 Fourth street, South.

WILLIAM H. McMILLAN, now Station Agent at Gull River, is a native of Danville, Vermont, where his birth occurred February 6th, 1860. At the age of fifteen he came to Minnesota, and after attending school about three years in Minneapolis, entered the Insurance office of his brother, P. D. McMillen, where he remained for some time, afterward learning telegraphy. He then entered the service of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company; first as operator at Valley City, from which place he came to Gull River, December 25th, 1880, and has since been in charge of this station.

HORATIO N. SEELYE, whose birth dates June 23d, 1828, is a native of St. George, New Brunswick, where his attention was given to lumbering until coming to this State in 1856. He first located at St. Anthony, then farmed one year about nine miles west of the city, after which he commenced business as contractor and builder, to which he devoted his energies until coming to this place in 1880, as a member of the manufacturing firm of Horr, Seelye & Co. The firm at once erected, and now operate a sash, door, and blind factory, in which enterprise they have been eminently successful. Mr. Seelye was united in marriage with Miss Emma Brockway, of New Brunswick, the ceremony dating June 1st, 1850. Of ten children born of this union, nine are living. Two daughters—the oldest—are married and living in Minneapolis; the others still share the parental roof.

## BELTRAMI COUNTY.

Beltrami county bears the name of the Italian explorer of that name, of whom, a sketch has been given in the Thirty-fifth Chapter of this History, with extracts from his journal.

The county was created by an act of the Legislature of 1866, with the following boundaries: "Beginning at the point where the line between ranges thirty-eight (38) and thirty-nine (39) intersects the line between townships one hundred and forty-two (142) and one hundred and forty-three (143); thence northwardly on said range to the northwest corner of township one hundred and fifty-four (154) and one hundred and fifty-five (155); thence eastwardly to the line between ranges



twenty-nine (29) and thirty (30), or to the nearest range line east of the mouth of Turtle River; thence southwardly on said range line to the centre of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the center of the main channel of the Mississippi to its intersection with the line between townships one hundred and forty-two (142) and one hundred and forty-three (143); thence westwardly along said township line to the place of beginning." By the census of 1880, it contained ten inhabitants.

While as yet it contains but few permanent settlers, yet for years it has been frequented by Indian traders. Within its borders is a large sheet of water known as Red Lake. Verendrye, the explorer of the country by the chain of lakes west of Lake Superior, in a sketch prepared in 1737, which has never been published, and still preserved among the archives of the French Government, marks Red Lake.

In 1843, missionaries came to benefit the Indians of this region, of whom a notice will be found in the Thirty-ninth Chapter.

Dr. J. G. Norwood, an assistant of Owens, the United States Geologist, in 1847, examined this country. In his report he writes: "We reached Red Lake on the 24th of September, and were most kindly received by Mr. and Mrs. Ayer, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, and Dr. and Mrs. Lewis of the mission here.

"The lake, which is the largest of all the small lakes in the Territory, being about thirty miles in diameter, is a double one. It is divided by two long peninsulas, which project into it from its eastern and western sides, dividing it into nearly equal portions, the strait connecting them being about two and a half miles in width. It contains no islands, and is represented as being very shallow in proportion to its size. Its general shape, and the relative position of the two divisions can be better understood by consulting the map than from any description I can give. \* \* \* \* The eastern peninsula is represented as being the site of Indian gardens."

The mission which was established in this place in 1843, has been of great service to the Indians. Under the instructions and example of the missionaries, and by their assistance a large tract of land has been cleared by the Indians, in which they cultivate fields of corn and potatoes. Three thousand bushels of potatoes were raised by them, besides squashes, and other vegetables in abundance.

A number of the Indians have good log houses; and their bark lodges are larger and better appointed than in the generality of Indian villages.

The strip of fine land on which the farms are situated, is about eight miles long, and from a quarter to three quarters of a mile in width, and is situated along the north shore of the lake. The houses of the missionaries are good and comfortable, and their farm is kept in as good order, and is as well cultivated as any farm in the States. It is really what it is intended to be, a "model farm," and the happy results of their example are seen all around them in the well cultivated fields of the Indians and the excellent cabins of many of them.

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## ITASCA COUNTY.

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Although one of the original nine counties created by the Territorial Legislature of 1849, Itasca county is still unorganized, and almost unsettled, the census report of 1880 showing but one hundred and twenty-four persons residing within its borders. Notwithstanding its reduction by the organization of new counties, it still embraces a large area, most of which is a dense forest. It extends from Cass and Aitkin counties, south, to the British Possessions, north; from which it is separated by Rainy Lake and Rainy Lake river, flowing from the Lake of the Woods, and finally mingling its waters with Lake Superior. St. Louis county forms its eastern, and Beltrami and Pembina its western boundary. Lake Winnibigoshish lies partly within its borders, and the Red Lake Reservation covers several thousand acres of its territory in the western part. Its limited population is composed chiefly of trappers and lumbermen. Only a small portion of the territory has been surveyed, and it is destitute of recent history. The old voyageurs traversed this greenwood in bygone years, in search of furs, encountering dangers and privations from which the present generation would shrink in dismay. Such of these events as are chronicled in the first chapters of this volume must constitute the written history of Itasca county, until the march of improvement shall reduce the primeval forests, and transform this wilderness into a thriving and enlightened community—the fit abode of man.

The American Medical Association is a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the science and art of medicine and the health of the people. It is composed of members who are physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals. The Association's primary concern is the advancement of the medical profession and the improvement of medical education and practice. It achieves these goals through various means, including the publication of journals, the holding of conferences, and the provision of services to its members.

The Association's activities are carried out through its various departments and committees. These include the Department of Education, the Department of Research, the Department of Legislation, and the Department of Public Relations. Each of these departments is responsible for a specific area of the Association's work, and they all work together to ensure that the Association's goals are achieved. The Association's success is measured by the extent to which it has been able to advance the medical profession and improve the health of the people.

The Association's membership is open to all who are qualified in the medical profession. It is a privilege to be a member of the Association, and members are encouraged to participate in its activities. The Association's membership is divided into several classes, including regular members, life members, and honorary members. Each class has its own set of rules and regulations, and members are expected to adhere to these rules. The Association's membership is a source of pride and honor for its members, and it is a testament to their commitment to the medical profession.

The Association's membership is a source of strength and support for its activities. It is through the contributions of its members that the Association is able to carry out its work and achieve its goals. The Association's membership is a reflection of the dedication and commitment of the medical profession, and it is a source of pride and honor for all who are involved in the Association's work. The Association's membership is a testament to the power of the medical profession to improve the health of the people.

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## MILLE LACS COUNTY.

## CHAPTER CLIV.

DESCRIPTION—ORGANIZATION—EARLY SETTLEMENT  
—FIRST THINGS—BROTTSBURG.

Mille Lacs county is located in east central Minnesota, and is about fifty miles in length, north and south, with an average width of fifteen miles. It is partially covered with heavy pine timber, except a small prairie in the southeastern part. It has an area of six hundred and seventy-two square miles, including one-half of Lake Mille Lacs, which forms its northern boundary, leaving the land area about five hundred and seventy square miles. It is drained by the Rum river; the east branch being the outlet of Mille Lacs Lake, which river gathers its waters and winds its course through the entire length of the county, flowing in a southern direction, leaving the county about three miles from its southeast corner; and the western branch of Rum river, rising in Benton county, entering the county from the west about twelve miles from its south line, running southeast, and joining the east branch about one mile from the south boundary of the county. Aside from Mille Lacs, there are only four lakes of note in the county; Nessawac and Onamia in the north and Silver and Rice lakes in the southern part. The agricultural efforts are confined to the southern part of the county. The soil is sandy, though good, producing all kinds of grain grown in this part of the State.

The exportation of timber and logs is carried on to considerable extent. The timber is cut and formed into rafts during the fall and winter months, and during the spring freshet floated down to the Mississippi, and thence to the manufacturing centers along its banks.

A portion of the county, comprising about two congressional townships on the south shore of Mille Lacs Lake, is occupied by a band of the Chippewa Indians, known as the "Mille Lacs

Band." They ceded the land to the Government in 1863, but reserved the right of possession during good behavior. This section is known as the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation. The locality is well suited to their peculiar habits, affording them ample opportunity to fish and hunt. These rich pine forests have excited the cupidity of lumber speculators, who have urged their removal to the White Earth Reservation. There are about seven hundred in the Band.

ORGANIZATION.—All that part of Mille Lacs county lying west of the west branch of Rum river was a part of Benton county, organized by the Territorial Legislature in 1849, but detached and made a part of Mille Lacs on the organization of the latter. That part lying east of the above named branch was afterwards embraced in the unorganized county of Mille Lac.

In 1858, the Territory becoming a State, Hon. Joseph B. Carpenter was chosen to represent this district in the first State Legislature. Through his exertions, assisted by J. L. Cater and others, an act was approved on the 20th of March, 1858, for the organization of a new county, to be known as Monroe, comprising the old county of Mille Lac, and a small portion of Benton and Isanti counties, fixing the county seat at Princeton. The law of the State required each of the counties affected by the change to ratify the act at the polls, which Isanti county failed to do by two votes. This effort failing, the inconvenience of going to Sauk Rapids and Little Falls, for all county business, aroused the people, and they became alive to the importance of organizing a new county. After some canvassing, another effort was made by Messrs. Samuel Ross and Joseph L. Cater, which, after a long struggle on their part at St. Paul, in the winter of 1859-60, resulted in an act of the legislature organizing a new county to be called Mille Lacs. It became necessary to organize the



old county of Mille Lac, before an election could be held. For this purpose a special bill was secured, and Dexter C. Payne, B. F. Whitney, and George Boekhoven were appointed County Commissioners of Mille Lac county, and they in turn appointed the other officers. All the counties affected by the change, concurred in the action, and the new county of Mille Laes was organized with Princeton as the county seat.

The first election was held in 1860, by which the following officers were elected: Joseph L. Cater, Chairman, Samuel Orton, and S. C. Moses, County Commissioners; William W. Payne, County Auditor and Register of Deeds; S. M. Byers, Clerk of Court; William McCauley, Sheriff; E. J. Whitney, County Treasurer; Samuel Ross, Judge of Probate; and S. M. Byers, Justice of the Peace. The first term of court was held in the summer of 1860, Judge Vanderburg, of Minneapolis, presiding. This term was held in what was known as the "Old Quarters Building." It is said there were but two cases, and the Judge dispatched the business in half a day and left the same afternoon for Minneapolis.

**EARLY SETTLEMENT.**—The first white man to visit this county was Father Hennepin, in 1680, who spent several days in the valley of the Rum river, then passed up to Lake Mille Laes. No other white man, except some of the early explorers and missionaries, are known to have visited this county until about the year 1848, when Daniel Stanchfield, of St. Anthony Falls, came up the river with others in a bateau on a pine log and lumber expedition. Nichols and others followed on the same enterprise the next year. David Day, in the winter of 1855-56, brought his wife into the pineries, who was the first white woman in the county. The first claim made was by A. B. Damon in 1854, covering the present town site of Princeton. During the same year Henry Jones with his family became residents of the vicinity. The first frame dwelling was built in 1856 by Hazen Weeks near the southeast corner of the county.

The first store was opened by George and John Oxnord in a building erected by Dr. V. Fell.

The paper town of Brotsburg was located on the southwest quarter of section one, and the northwest quarter of section twelve, town thirty-eight, range twenty-seven. It was platted by T. H. Barrett in 1857, and recorded on the 16th of January, 1857. No trace can be found of the town,

though a large hotel was erected there in an early day, and visited frequently by lumbermen when in this county.

## VILLAGE OF PRINCETON.

### CHAPTER CLV.

DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENT—INDIAN TROUBLES OF 1862 — BRIDGES — MILLS — SCHOOLS — CHURCHES — MASONIC — POST-OFFICE — FIRE DEPARTMENT—NEWSPAPERS.

The village of Princeton was laid out and platted by Hon. Samuel Ross, James W. Gillam, Dorilus Morrison, John S. Princee, and Richard Clute, in the fall or winter of 1855, and the plat recorded on the 19th of April, 1856, at the office of the Register of Deeds in Benton county. A. B. Damon laid out a portion of his claim adjoining the original plat on the south, which is known as Damon's Addition, in the summer of 1858. Subsequently, Cater's, Murray's, Dunham's, and Highland's Additions were added. The village continued as a center of lumbering interest for many years, without any formal village organization. It was incorporated in 1877, and the first election held in the month of March of that year, at which the following officers were elected: C. H. Rines, President; F. M. Campbell, L. S. Mudgett, and T. H. Caley, Trustees; S. L. Staples, Recorder; D. H. Murray, Treasurer; Charles Keith and S. M. Justice, Justices of the Peace; and William Martin, Constable.

**EARLY SETTLEMENT.**—The first shanty built within the limits of Princeton was in 1849, and occupied by a mulatto, known by the name of "Banjo Bill," who kept a "stopping place." This shanty stood near the old elm tree, in the rear of the North Star Hotel. The next shanty and first real place of entertainment, was kept by Charles Whitcomb and Mr. Dunton, in 1854, who occupied it a short time, when it passed into the hands of A. B. Damon, who ranked as the first permanent white settler of the place. The following year, Messrs. Damon and Allen farmed the land now occupied by the town, which was probably the first farming of any importance done in the county. Early in 1856, Hon. Samuel Ross completed his log hotel, which was immediately opened to the public. This was known as the Princeton





House. About this time Thomas Goulding also opened the American House.

The first frame building in the village was the Oxnord store, now owned by H. B. Cowles & Co., and used as a store room. The next was the dwelling house of Dr. V. Fell, removed about 1873, from Benjamin Soule's lot in block nine, and now occupied by John W. Dimmick.

About this date Princeton began to assume the proportions of a business place. H. B. Cowles, B. F. Whitney, and John Rines were in the mercantile business. The first blacksmith shop was built in 1856, by Sammel Ross, and placed in charge of James Roundtree, the first mechanic in this line in the place, who was soon followed by Mr. Hamilton. The new North Star Hotel was built in 1868. The financial crisis of 1857, running through several years; the grasshopper scourge of the same date, leaving a poor people in almost destitute circumstances, caused "blue times" in this county. Flour and sugar were to be used only on the most important occasions. Most of the people were glad if they could secure even corn meal and venison to satisfy the wants of the inner man. Notwithstanding the general scarcity, the people were not disheartened, nor would they be driven from their homes.

During the civil war a sufficient number of men volunteered to fight the battles of the Union, so that no draft was made. The entire number of inhabitants at that time did not exceed three hundred, and less than one hundred men were able to bear arms.

When other settlements were fleeing to St. Paul and Minneapolis in anticipation of an attack by the murderous Sioux, the inhabitants of this county organized and erected a stockade at Princeton, to which the settlers resorted and held themselves in readiness in case of a surprise. The Mille Lacs band of Chippeways remained friendly, and no depredations by the hostiles were committed in the county. Several companies of Infantry and Cavalry were also sent at different times to guard the town.

**MILLS.**—In 1856, William F. Dunham and others built the first steam saw mill. It had a capacity of six thousand feet in ten hours. This mill was burned about four years after its erection. It is said Messrs. William Carmody, John Gleason, and James Dimmick sawed a portion of the lumber used in the erection of this mill with a common whip-saw.

The next was built by Sammel Ross in 1858. This was a water mill, with a capacity of three thousand feet in ten hours. The third was built by Benjamin Soule in 1867, and has a capacity of fifteen thousand feet of lumber, and fifteen thousand shingles in ten hours; it is run by a forty horse-power engine.

The first flour-mill was built in 1870, by Benjamin Soule. It is a water mill with a capacity of twenty barrels per day. There is another mill about one and a quarter miles up the stream; built in 1868, by J. H. Allen, with a capacity of twenty barrels per day. B. F. Whitney built a feed mill in 1875, which is run by a twenty horse-power engine, with a daily capacity of ten tons.

**SCHOOLS.**—In 1856, the first school house in the county was built in the town of Princeton. The money was secured by subscription. The first school taught was a three months' term in the winter of 1856, by James M. Dayton. Terms of three months were held in this building each year until 1858, when the first school district was formed. The records show that at a meeting of the citizens on the 26th of November, 1858, Joseph D. Morris, Franklin Libby, and Albert B. Damon were elected Trustees; and John H. Allen, Clerk. In 1859, the school was supported by private subscriptions. In 1861, district number two was set off from district number one. In 1867, the present school house was erected on the corner of Central Avenue and Third Street, at a cost of \$3,600; but this is found to be inadequate to the demands of the present, and a more commodious building is contemplated.

There are eight districts in the county, and ten schools are in operation during the regular terms. There are fifteen teachers, and four hundred and thirty-three scholars enrolled. The salaries paid for the last school year amounted to \$1,709.88, and the total value of school property was \$4,800.

**CHURCHES.**—The First Congregational Church was organized by Rev. Royal Twitchell, in August 1856, with thirteen members. The subsequent pastors were L. C. Gilbert, A. V. House, C. A. Hampton, S. Ollenshan, C. C. Reed, M. Storms, and D. Henderson. The church was erected, and dedicated on the 16th day of March, 1873; the present membership is sixteen.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in the year 1857, with seven members, by Rev. Mr. Hooper, and the church was built the same year. Rev. S. S. Adams held services in private



houses before the church was erected. The first service in the church was held in the fall of 1857.

**MASONIC.**—Fraternal Lodge No. 92, A. F. and A. M., was organized under dispensation, on the 25th of March, 1871. The first officers were: John Parker, W. M.; Silas L. Staples, S. W.; Alexander Young, J. W.; W. A. Dorr, Treas.; H. M. Jameson, Sec.; J. Rollinson, S. D.; C. Morehouse, J. D.; N. M. Smith, S. S.; and James A. Prince, Tyler. The charter was granted on the 10th of January, 1872.

**POST-OFFICE.**—The first Post-office was established in 1856, and Mr. Ross took the contract to convey the mail to and from Anoka once a week. The first Postmaster was O. E. Garrison. The subsequent Postmasters have been J. L. Cater, John H. Allen, David E. Golden, Mrs. L. J. Cunningham, George D. Loring, and Newell A. Ross, the present incumbent. This office receives a daily mail by stage, from Elk River.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT.**—The Princeton Engine Company No. 1, was organized on the 28th of May, 1881, with the following officers: Henry Webster, Foreman; T. H. Caley, 1st Asst.; C. H. Rines, 2d Asst.; J. L. Brady, Sec.; and Charles Keith, Treas. They have provided themselves with an Engine, Hose, and all the necessary equipments; the cost of the outfit being about \$2,000.00.

**NEWSPAPERS.**—The first newspaper to connect Princeton with the outer world and supply the demands of a growing spirit in civilized life, was "The Princeton Appeal," published by William M. Quigley. The first number appeared in the month of December, 1873. Mr. Quigley was succeeded by J. S. Brocklehurst in May, 1875, who discontinued the paper the following spring. R. C. Dunn commenced the publication of "The Princeton Union" in December, 1876, which he still continues. It is published on Thursday of each week, and is a six column quarto sheet.

**BANK OF PRINCETON.**—This place of business was established on the 1st of March, 1880, by Cochran, Clark, & Pratt, who sold it to C. H. Rines, F. M. Campbell, and G. J. Sowden, on the 1st of April, 1881. A general banking business is transacted, and the officers are: President, F. M. Campbell; Vice-President, C. H. Rines; and Cashier, G. J. Sowden.

#### PRINCETON TOWNSHIP.

This town comprises the whole county outside of Greenbush and Milo, and was organized in 1857, with J. L. Cater, C. W. Houston, and Elias Pratt as Supervisors; John H. Allen, Town Clerk;

Dr. V. Fell and H. M. Atkins, Justices of the Peace. This was on the west side of the river, and formed a part of Benton county.

The town of East Princeton, Mille Lac county, was organized by the County Commissioners on the 9th of March, 1860, bounded as follows: All that portion of township thirty-six north of range twenty-six west, that lies east of the main channel of Rum river, according to the Government survey. The first annual meeting was held at the office of the Register of Deeds, on the 3d of April, 1860. The officers elected were: Supervisors, E. J. Whitney, Chairman, S. M. Moses, and Charles Lindeke; Clerk, W. W. Payne; Treasurer, B. F. Whitney; Assessor, George Bockhoven; Justices of the Peace, W. W. Payne and Benedict Hipler; Constables, D. C. Payne and Jacob Habermeyer.

After the formation of Mille Laes county, the town of East Princeton, by a vote of the people in accordance with an order of the board of County Commissioners, disorganized, and its territory was annexed to the town of Princeton, since which time it has been one township.

The general characteristics of the county describe the township. Its soil is good, and the harvests as certain as in any part of the State.

The timber, both pine and hardwood, is unexcelled in quality. There are some excellent meadow lands, affording large quantities of hay, and pasturage.

As an agriculturing district, this town combines all that is of advantage in the county. The agricultural report of 1880, furnishes the following figures: wheat, 6,180 bushels; oats, 4,484 bushels; corn, 10,821 bushels; barley, 36 bushels; rye, 1,107 bushels; buckwheat, 112 bushels; potatoes, 298 bushels; beans, 112 bushels; sugar-cane, 304 gallons; wild hay, 1,600 tons; wool, 506 pounds; butter, 16,050 pounds; and honey, 400 pounds.

The cultivated area of 1881 is 2,578 acres.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

**ALMON P. BARKER**, one of the leading attorneys and representative men of Mille Laes county, was born at Naples, Cumberland county, Maine, on the 11th of August, 1846. He was reared on a farm, and provided with such educational facilities as were furnished by the common and high schools of the locality, with a few terms at Bridgton Academy and one term at Westbrook Seminary. In 1864, he commenced teaching school during the





winter months, and followed that occupation more or less until after settling in Princeton in 1873. He came to Minnesota in 1868, and was admitted to the Bar the following year, but returned to Maine in 1870, and was in business at Ellsworth for some time. In the spring of 1873, he returned to Minnesota, and after being employed as book-keeper for Farnham & Lovejoy at Minneapolis, for six months, came to Princeton and occupied the position of Principal of the graded schools during the school year. In July, 1874, he opened a law office, and has been in active practice ever since. In the same year he was appointed Superintendent of Schools for Mille Laes county, and elected Town Clerk and Judge of Probate, holding the former office four years, and the latter, two years. In 1876, he was an independent republican candidate for Representative in the State Legislature, but defeated by seventeen votes. In 1877, he received the regular republican nomination for State Senator, which, however, he declined. In 1878, he was elected County Attorney, and re-elected in 1880. Mr. Barker is also largely interested in the real estate business. He was united in marriage with Miss Olive Ross, daughter of the late Samuel Ross, Esq., of Princeton, on the 13th of July, 1876.

JOSEPH L. BRADY, also a prominent lawyer of Princeton, was born at New Lebanon Springs, Columbia county, New York, on the 14th of February, 1849. When he was seven years old the family came to Minnesota, and settled in what is now the town of Palmer, Sherburne county. He attended the St. Cloud Institute, where he graduated in 1866, and subsequently pursued classical studies under a private tutor until 1868. He commenced writing for the public press in 1869, contributing valuable articles to the "Minnesota Monthly" and "St. Paul Pioneer," besides a number of eastern and local journals; also a series of articles entitled "Sketches and Incidents of Western Life," which appeared in the "Gleaner," and were afterwards republished in pamphlet form. From 1874 to 1877, he was Principal of the graded school at Paynesville, Stearns county, and on the 19th of September, 1878, was admitted to the Bar as an attorney, at Princeton, where he is now engaged in the active practice of his profession. Mr. Brady has taken quite a prominent part in public affairs since settling here, and is now County Superintendent of Schools, and also Village Attorney of Princeton. Miss Mary J.

Kenely became his wife on the 17th of September, 1873.

SAMUEL M. BYERS, one of the pioneers of Princeton, was born on the 9th of November, 1828. He came to Princeton from New York in 1857, his family being the first to arrive after the town site was laid out. He took a claim on sections twenty-two and twenty-three, township thirty-six, range twenty-six west; where he resided two years, having erected a house in the village in the mean time, to which he then removed. Mr. Byers was the first Clerk of the Court in Mille Laes county. He taught the second school, and until 1874, spent a considerable portion of his time in that occupation. Since the latter date, he has carried on the mercantile business, his annual sales now amounting to \$12,000.

ANDREW J. BULLIS was born in Knox county, Ohio, in the year 1844. The family removed to Indiana when Andrew was a child, where he grew to manhood and learned the carpenter trade. He came to Princeton in 1866, and after following his trade until 1879, opened a wagon shop, which he now carries on, making a specialty of job work.

CHARLES L. BRAY dates his birth at Freeman, Maine, in the year 1830. When a child, the family removed to Dover, where Charles lived until 1853 and came to Minnesota. After spending four years at lumbering in Minneapolis, he came to Baldwin, Sherburne county, and settled on a farm, where he remained for three or four years. He then removed to Princeton, and was engaged in lumbering two years, after which he settled on his present farm in section eleven. Mr. Bray has been twice married; first to Miss Hannah P. Chase in 1856, who died after two years of wedded life. His present wife was Miss Mary Mudgett, chosen on the 24th of March, 1860. They have been blessed with two children.

ROBERT D. BYERS, a son of Samuel Byers, was born in New York, in March, 1850. He came to this State with his parents when seven years old, and lived at home until 1874, when he took a trip to California and was engaged in lumbering there for one year and a half. Returning thence to Princeton, he made that his residence until 1878, when he moved to his present farm on section seven.

GEORGE BOCKHOVEN, one of the pioneers of Mille Laes county, was born in New York in the year 1818. He came to Princeton with his family in 1856, and settled on a farm on section thirteen.

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He was married in his native State to Miss Sophia Brooks, the event taking place in 1850. Of nine children, the result of this union, seven are living; Nancy M., George H., John F., Lafayette D., Cora E., Leonard, and Lemuel.

FRANCIS M. CAMPBELL is a native of Maine, and was born in the year 1837. His father kept a hotel and Francis was reared in that occupation until 1857, when he went to California and remained six years west of the Rocky Mountains, engaged in mining and lumbering. Returning to his native State he enlisted in the Eighteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry, serving one year. After his discharge he came to Minnesota, in 1866, and remained one year in Minneapolis, coming thence to Princeton, where he has since lived. His first business venture here was the purchase of the American House, which he conducted until 1879, and sold to Henry Webster, the present proprietor. Mr. Campbell is President of the Bank of Princeton, and for the last six years has been Treasurer of Mille Lacs county. He also carries on a livery stable and does quite an extensive logging business.

JOHN W. CORMACK was born in Illinois in the year 1816. He is one of the very early pioneers of Minnesota, having visited the present site of Stillwater as early as 1844. As early as 1848, he commenced rafting lumber down the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, following that occupation most of the time until 1874. He settled at St. Anthony in 1859, and made that place his home until his removal to Princeton in 1874. Although nearing the threescore and ten years generally allotted to man, Mr. Cormack still retains much of his youthful vigor, and spends a great portion of his time logging and lumbering, and exploring the wilds of this northern country.

HIRAM B. COWLES dates his birth at Greene, Chenango county, New York, on the 1st of April, 1835. When a child, the family removed to Steuben county, where Hiram resided until twenty-one years of age. He then came to Minnesota, and was clerk in a banking house at St. Anthony for some time. In 1861, he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and after two months was transferred to the position of clerk in the Quartermaster department at Fort Snelling, where he remained about one and a half years. He came to Princeton in 1863, and established a mercantile business which he still carries on, having one of the most extensive establishments in the

village. He also carries on a logging business during the winter months, employing about twenty-five men. Mr. Cowles has also taken quite an active part in public affairs since coming to Princeton; he has been Clerk of the District Court, and is now serving his fourth term as Treasurer of the township, and his fifth term as school district Treasurer.

DANIEL A. CALEY is a native of Canada, and was born on the 15th of August, 1849. When quite young the family removed to Janesville, Wisconsin, where Daniel resided until 1864, when he enlisted in the Forty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He then went to Cresco, Iowa, and learned the tinner's trade, and in 1868, came to Minnesota. After remaining a few months in St. Paul he came to Anoka, and followed his trade until coming to Princeton in 1870. He at once opened a hardware store here, being associated with Fitch & Smith of Anoka, as partners. In 1871, his brother entered the firm, and in 1873, Daniel disposed of his interest to Robert M. Neely, and in July of the following year engaged in the drug business which he still continues. Mr. Caley has held the Position of Register of Deeds and Justice of the Peace, and is now serving his fifth term as Clerk of the District Court.

JOSEPH L. CATER was born in Barrington, New Hampshire, on the 28th of March, 1828. He grew to manhood in his native State, and in 1855, came to Princeton, but returned to Maine the same fall. Coming again to Minnesota in the spring of 1856, he took a claim in Baldwin township, Sherburne county, and also erected a house in Princeton the same year. He disposed of both those claims in 1862, and has since lived on his present farm, which consists of three hundred and twenty acres and adjoins the village of Princeton.

MARTIN V. B. CATER is also a native of Barrington, New Hampshire, and was born on the 15th of August, 1831. He was reared to farming pursuits, and in 1857, came to Minnesota and was engaged in freighting between St. Paul and Princeton for a few months. In the same fall he took a claim in Baldwin township, Sherburne county, where he lived for eleven years. He then sold his farm and removed to Princeton township, where he now owns five hundred and twenty acres, over two hundred of which are under cultivation.

ANDREW J. CATER was born in Brunswick, Maine, on the 7th of March, 1828. When quite

The first of these is the question of the origin of the human race. It is generally admitted that the human race is descended from a common ancestor, but the question of the exact nature of this ancestor is still a matter of debate. Some authorities believe that the human race is descended from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the present day. Others believe that the human race is descended from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the present day. The second question is the question of the development of the human race. It is generally admitted that the human race has developed from a common ancestor, but the question of the exact nature of this development is still a matter of debate. Some authorities believe that the human race has developed from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the present day. Others believe that the human race has developed from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the present day. The third question is the question of the distribution of the human race. It is generally admitted that the human race is distributed throughout the world, but the question of the exact nature of this distribution is still a matter of debate. Some authorities believe that the human race is distributed throughout the world, but the question of the exact nature of this distribution is still a matter of debate. Others believe that the human race is distributed throughout the world, but the question of the exact nature of this distribution is still a matter of debate.



young the family removed to Barrington, New Hampshire, where Andrew lived on his father's farm until eighteen years of age. He then went to Massachusetts and learned the carpenter's trade, which was his occupation until coming to Princeton in 1867. Mr. Cater has since resided on a farm located on section thirty, and containing two hundred and sixty acres, of which upwards of one hundred are under cultivation.

WILLIAM A. CARMODY is a native of Ireland, and was born in the year 1829. He came to America in 1851, and after spending one year each in Ohio and Kentucky, came to Minnesota. He remained in St. Anthony two years, being employed in the erection of the suspension bridge, and also lumbering and farming. In 1855, he came to Princeton and selected his present farm on section thirty-two, where he erected a house and moved the following year. Mr. Carmody has a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres.

EDWARD W. CATER is a son of Martin V. B. Cater, and was born in Barrington, New Hampshire, in 1855. When he was two years old the family removed to Minnesota, and with the exception of two years at school in Minneapolis, resided at home until 1875, when he bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, located on sections twenty-three and twenty-four, where he now lives.

GEORGE W. DUNTON dates his birth in Oldtown, Maine, on the 25th of February, 1830. In early life he learned the trade of brick-mason, and was afterwards engaged in the manufacture of lime and brick. He came to Minnesota in 1856, and after a three years stay in Minneapolis, went to St. Cloud and lived until 1876. He then came to Princeton and opened a brick-yard about two miles north of the village, which he has recently sold to his son, Francis E. Dunton, and opened another about one mile and a quarter east of the village. Mr. Dunton manufactured two hundred and fifty thousand brick during the year 1880.

ROBERT C. DUNN, editor and proprietor of the "Princeton Union," was born in county Tyrone, in the North of Ireland, on the 14th of February, 1855. His parents were of Scotch descent, and members of the Established Church of England. Robert attended a National school regularly until he was fifteen years old, in all about one hundred months of school days. He was then apprenticed in a dry goods store in Londonderry, Ireland, but

after serving six months, the business being distasteful to him, he took "French leave" and came to America, making his way alone to friends in Wisconsin, in April, 1870. The following winter he went to St. Louis, and soon after to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and spent six months as clerk for a railroad contractor. Returning to St. Louis, he entered the office of the "Missouri State Atlas," with the intention of learning the printer's trade, for which he had long cherished a desire. After the campaign of 1872, the "Atlas" suspended, and Robert entered the office of the "Industrial Age," and later, the "Journal" office, where he finished his apprenticeship. He continued his journalistic labors there until January, 1876, when he was prostrated by partial paralysis, and suffered severely for four months. For the benefit of his health he came to Minnesota, where he soon partially recovered, and on the 30th of December, by the kind assistance of friends, he issued the first number of the "Princeton Union." He was then less than twenty-two years old, and probably the youngest editor in the State. Since then the "Union" has steadily increased in popularity, and under his management, has attained an extensive circulation in Mille Lacs and the adjoining counties of Sherburne and Isanti, and will compare favorably with any country newspaper in the State. Mr. Dunn is well liked by the people of Princeton, irrespective of party, and his paper is noted for its political independence, although the editor is a republican.

ALBERT B. DAMON, the oldest living settler of Mille Lacs county, was born in Troy, Maine, on the 4th of June, 1824. He came to Minnesota in 1852, and after remaining one winter about five miles north of the present city of Minneapolis, came to Princeton, and made the first claim on the site of the present village. "Banjo Bill" and one or two others had been here before, but did not make claims. The former had built the first shanty, and Mr. Damon built the second, a log house which still stands in the rear of the North Star House. There was no settler nearer Mr. Damon than Elk River, on the Mississippi. In 1855, he sold his claim to Samuel Ross, and selected the quarter section adjoining his first claim on the south, a portion of which he has since surveyed and platted, and is now known as Damon's addition to Princeton. In 1862, Mr. Damon enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. On returning from the army he settled in section eighteen, Baldwin township, Sherburne county,



where he now lives on a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres.

JOHN W. DIMMICK, also one of the pioneers of Princeton, was born in Tompkins, Delaware county, New York, on the 29th of August, 1818. When he was twelve years old the family removed to Livingston county, and five years later, to Allegany county, where John lived, being engaged at the carpenter trade and as a millwright until 1855. He came to Minnesota in the fall of the latter year, and in January, 1856, came to Princeton and took a claim on section twenty-nine. He lived with Mr. Ross during the winter, and in the spring, built a house on his claim, and on the arrival of his family from New York, took possession of it, and still resides on the old homestead. His wife was Miss Cynthia Payne, of Massachusetts, and of seven children born to them, five are living. His son, William W. Dimmick, is also a resident of Princeton. He was born at Ossian, New York, in the year 1844, and came to this county with his parents. He owns and operates a farm in Isanti county.

CHARLES E. FOSTER, whose place of nativity is in the state of Maine, was born in the year 1848. He is a son of William Foster, one of the pioneer lumbermen on the St. Croix river. He came to Minnesota with the family when quite young, and was reared in the lumber business, which he has followed through life. Mr. Foster came to Princeton in 1872, and carries on a logging business about thirty-five miles above the village.

E. C. GILE, M. D., was born in Addison, Steuben county, New York, on the 9th of September, 1836. After taking the usual preparatory courses, he entered the Bennett Medical College at Chicago, where he graduated in 1870. He practiced medicine four years at Cambridge, Isanti county, but has since resided at Princeton in the active practice of his profession.

THOMAS GOULDING, deceased, one of the early settlers in this region, was born in England, but became a resident of Ohio in 1830. He came to Minnesota in the spring of 1855, and spent the summer in making the road from St. Paul to Leech Lake. The following spring he settled in Isanti county, and after a residence of two years, came to Princeton and purchased the property on which the American House now stands. There was then a small house, 16x24 feet, standing on the premises, which was soon replaced by the American House, Mr. Goulding conducting it un-

til its sale to F. M. Campbell in 1867. The subject of our sketch died at Princeton in the year 1875.

JOHN W. GOULDING, a son of the subject of the last brief memoir, was born at Pomeroy, Ohio, in the year 1845. He came to this State in youth, and was reared with his father in the hotel business. He is a resident of Princeton, and engaged in farming and lumbering.

ALBION P. HARMON was born in Foxcroft, Maine, on the 17th of April, 1832. He was raised on a farm, and at the age of sixteen years, went to learn the slater's trade, which was his occupation for a number of years. In 1859, he went to California, and was engaged in lumbering and mining there and in Nevada, until 1862, when he returned to his native State. After farming there for ten years, he came to Princeton and has lived here ever since. He has been Deputy Sheriff of Mille Laes county for the last two years.

ARTHUR F. HOWARD is a native of Brownville, Piscataquis county, Maine, and was born in the year 1847. He came to Princeton in 1865, and has been engaged in the lumber business in this locality nearly ever since. During the years 1872-73, he was in California, also engaged in lumbering. His present field of operations is about thirty miles up the east branch of Rum river. Mr. Howard takes quite an interest in public affairs, and is serving his third term as Sheriff of the county.

FLOYD H. HATCHER dates his birth in Virginia, on the 10th of September, 1835. He came to Iowa in 1853, and after farming there for three years, came to Minnesota and settled at St. Peter. After a residence of four years in that locality, during which he was engaged in farming and teaming, he came to Princeton and took a homestead on section five. He removed to Blue Hill, Sherburne county, five years later, but soon returned to his present residence on section twenty.

JONAS R. HILL was born in New Brunswick in 1830. He came to the state of Maine when twelve years old, but returned to his native Province at the age of nineteen, and was lumbering and farming for four years. He came to Minnesota in 1853, and settled in Langola, Benton county, where he lived until 1861, when he enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving three years. He returned to Princeton in 1864, and has followed lumbering most of the time since. Mr. Hill owns a good farm of





one hundred and sixty acres, about two miles east of the village.

JOHN C. HATCH is a native of Newcastle, Maine, and was born on the 5th of October, 1828. He learned the trade of ship-carpenter when a young man, and followed that occupation until 1855, when he came to Minnesota and located in what is now the town of Milo, about ten miles northwest of Princeton, being one of the first three settlers in that town. Three years later he came to Princeton, and was employed at the carpenter trade here for seven years, after which he took a homestead and followed the plow for five years. Then, after a four years further sojourn in Princeton, he removed to Anoka, but in 1877, again returned to Princeton, where he is now engaged in the carpenter business. Mr. Hatch was married on the 25th of June, 1854, to Miss Martha A. Hilton, of Jefferson, Maine. They have four children.

NELSON E. JESMER was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on the 25th of May, 1849. He came to Princeton in 1866, and was employed on a farm when not attending school, for about four years. He then engaged as clerk in the store of H. B. Cowles, and after an experience of four years behind the counter, opened a general store on his own account, which he now conducts, doing an annual business of \$30,000.

CHARLES KEITH is a native of Farmington, Franklin county, Maine. He received his education at the High School and Farmington Academy, and came to Princeton in January, 1873. Mr. Keith is one of the prominent men of the county, and has filled a number of responsible positions. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1875, and Probate Judge in 1876, both of which positions he has held ever since. He was also Assessor for several years, and census enumerator in 1880. In addition to his public labors he is engaged in the lumber and real estate business. Miss Eva Smith, also a native of Maine, became his wife in October, 1874.

PETER KUNKE was born in Prussia on the 18th of December, 1820. He was engaged in the manufacture of furniture, and carpenter work in his native country. In 1865, he came to America, and soon after, settled in this township, where he owns a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was married in 1851, to Miss Lonisa Gerth, who has borne him six children, five of whom are living. The eldest daughter is the wife of Mr. Wil-

helm, of St. Paul, and the others reside at home.

CHARLES E. LEONARD, one of Minnesota's earliest pioneers, was born in Worthington, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, on the 25th of February, 1810. His father died when he was but four years old, and his mother supported herself and two children until 1817, by teaching school. She then married Alphens Nichols, who removed to Rodman, Jefferson county, New York, then a new and sparsely settled country. When fourteen years of age, Charles went to live with a widowed sister of his step-father, and aided by her son, who was four years his junior, carried on her farm until he was twenty-one years of age. The lady then gave him one hundred dollars in cash, and sufficient clothing to last three years. He then went to Louisville, New York, and hired to Judge I. W. Bostwick, a lawyer who carried on a large farm, to take charge of it for one hundred and thirty-two dollars per year, out of which he was enabled to save one hundred and ten dollars. Remained in his employ two years, and then rented the farm, but gave it up soon after. He next conducted a farm of his own for three years, but finding that his health had been injured by hard labor, gave up farming. He next run a hotel at Depauville, but continued poor health obliged him to give it up also. Leaving his family with his mother, Mr. Leonard started west, and in 1846, engaged in mercantile pursuits in Hancock county, Illinois, his family following him the next spring. Finding the climate still unfavorable to health, he again sought a home, further north. He embarked on the steamer Highland Mary, and came to Stillwater, which he found to be a very desirable place, and began making preparations to stay, and opened a store in a building rented of Dr. Carli.

In the latter part of December, he received a letter from his wife, saying their little girl was very sick and not expected to live. Locking up the store, and giving the key to Dr. Carli, in the bitter cold winter he started on foot for Illinois. After much suffering he reached his family a few days before his child died, having traveled over three hundred miles, sleeping at night on the snow covered ground. In the spring of 1848, he brought his family to their new home, to find that in his absence, his property had been almost entirely destroyed by fire. He then bought a set of carpenter's tools, and went to work at two dollars per day, meanwhile building a house for himself, by working mornings and evenings. Mr. Leonard,



as Sheriff of St. Croix county, opened the first court in Stillwater, Judges Goodrich and Cooper presiding. In 1849, he moved to St. Anthony, was Territorial Treasurer from 1854, to 1857, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention in the latter year. He then removed to Point Douglas and built the Leonard House, which he kept until 1862, and enlisted in the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and was among the first to go to the relief of Fort Ridgely, remaining in the service fifteen months. He then returned to Point Douglas, sold his hotel, and erected a fine residence which was his home until 1877. Then went to Sioux City, Iowa, but after two years, returned to Minnesota and settled in Isanti county, and in September, 1880, came to his present home in Princeton. Mr. Leonard is Justice of the Peace in this village, an office that he has held almost continuously since coming to the Territory. He was married on the 1st of January, 1835, to Miss Catharine Sendes, of Louisville, New York. They have had three sons and one daughter; James E. and George Y., are living.

GEORGE D. LORING was born in Yarmouth, Maine, on the 25th of May, 1835. His father was a carpenter, and with him George learned the trade. He came to Anoka, Minnesota, when twenty years old, and thence, one year later, to Spencer Brook, Isanti county. He followed farming there until 1863, when he enlisted in the Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving two years and one month. Returning from the army, he came to Princeton and engaged in the lumber business, which he still continues; his field of labor being on the Rum river, about thirty-five miles north of Princeton. In 1880, Mr. Loring formed a partnership with H. C. Head, and under the firm name of Head & Loring, engaged in the mercantile business. The firm do a business of about \$20,000 annually.

ISAIAH S. MUDGETT is a native of Penobscot county, Maine, where his birth occurred June 7th, 1839. After receiving a liberal education at Enfield, in his native State, he came to Point Douglas, Minnesota, arriving in October, 1858. In 1865, he came to Princeton, and the same year was elected Auditor of Mille Lacs county, which office he has since held, except four years, from 1870 to 1874.

GEORGE MAHONEY was born in Atkinson, Maine, on the 8th of April, 1823. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he followed till 1852,

when he removed to Iowa and engaged in the hotel and mercantile business. Since 1874, Mr. Mahoney has been a resident of Princeton, where he owns a billiard hall.

MICHAEL MAHONEY was born in Ireland, in 1845. He came to America when eleven years of age, and resided in New York City till 1861, since which time he has lived in Princeton. During the first six years of his residence here, he was employed on farms and in the lumber woods, but since 1867, has owned a farm in section thirty-one, on which he still lives.

JOHN McMINN, a native of Ireland, was born in 1830. He came to America in 1846, worked at the blacksmith trade in Ogdensburg, New York, until 1861, when he enlisted in the One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteer Infantry, serving eighteen months. After his discharge, he returned to New York, and was employed at blacksmithing till 1865. Then came to Princeton, and for several years was engaged at his trade. In 1873, Mr. McMinn purchased a farm in section nineteen, and now owns about seven hundred acres in that locality.

SAMUEL MILLER is a native of Trumbull county, Ohio, born on the 3d of July, 1848. When he was six years old, his parents moved to Monroe county, thence to Washington county, and in 1868, to Anoka county, Minnesota, where they now reside. Our subject was employed in his uncle's mill in Ohio, and since 1872, has been head miller in the flouring mill at Princeton.

ROBERT M. NEELY was born in Washington county, Indiana, on the 12th of April, 1832. He lived on a farm until moving to Marion, Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business, following it for five years. Then, with a Government surveying party, was in Minnesota and Dakota for six years. In 1858, he returned to Iowa, and resided on a farm in Muscatine, till 1870, when he came to Princeton. For two years Mr. Neely was engaged in the milling business, but since then, in company with Thomas H. Caley, has been dealing in hardware and agricultural implements. They have a fine store 28x60 feet, a wareroom for agricultural implements 28x70 feet, and carry a stock of \$15,000, doing a business of \$100,000 annually.

RICHARD B. NEWTON, a native of England, was born in the year 1826. He learned the machinist trade, at which he worked till coming to America in 1867. Came directly to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Isanti county. In 1871, he came to





Princeton and has since been engaged in the butcher business, in connection with which, in October, 1880, he opened a general merchandise store, and carries a stock of \$3,500.

HERMAN NEUMAN is a native of Germany, but came to America when a child. He was a resident of Iowa, first living in Clinton, where he learned the blacksmith trade, then in Decorah until coming to Minnesota in 1878. His first two years in this State were spent in Minneapolis, then came to Princeton, where he has since conducted a general blacksmith shop.

J. W. NOKES was born in Lake county, Illinois on the 2d of January, 1857. He is a son of Rufus Nokes, who came to Princeton in 1869. The subject of this sketch owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section six, in Wyandotte, Isanti county, on which he has lived since 1878.

LEONARD PRATT is a native of Foxcroft, Piscataquis county, Maine, born on the 13th of January, 1825. He resided on a farm till eighteen years of age, then for thirteen years engaged in the lumber business and exploring pine lands. Since 1856, Mr. Pratt has made his home in Princeton and devoted his time to exploring and surveying pine lands, having traveled over a large portion of this section of the country.

JAMES M. PRICE is a native of Marion county, Ohio, born in the year 1855. There he learned the trade of carpenter and builder, at which he was employed till 1879. Came to Princeton in the latter year, and has since been engaged at his trade.

CALEB J. PINKHAM, a native of the town of Munson, Ohio, was born on the 10th of July, 1843. When he was a child the family removed to Wisconsin, where our subject remained till 1861, when he enlisted in the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry, serving till the close of the war. Came to Princeton in 1867, and located a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section thirty, which has since been his home.

ADDISON G. PLUMMER was born in the year 1830, in Montgomery county, Virginia. In 1862, he removed to Illinois, and in the spring of the following year, enlisted in the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; was discharged at the end of his term of service, (three years) and re-enlisted in Battery B, First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving till the close of the war. Mr. Plummer came to Princeton in 1868, and has since devoted his time to various occupations.

NEWELL A. ROSS was born on the 16th of January, 1845, spending his early life on a farm. In 1864, he sailed in a merchantman, and spent three years on the sea. On his return, he worked two years in the Portsmouth navy-yard, in Kittery, Maine. Then came to Princeton, and for seven years was employed at the carpenter trade. In 1876, Mr. Ross was elected Register of Deeds, and the following year Postmaster, and has held both offices ever since.

GEORGE M. REYNOLDS, a native of Lumberville, Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 11th of March, 1853. He was reared on a farm and when ten years of age came to Dakota county, Minnesota, where he followed farming till 1872. Then, after living in Missouri for a time, he went to Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, and was engaged in the lumber business six years. In 1879, Mr. Reynolds returned to Minnesota and entered the employ of a Fire and Marine Insurance Company in St. Paul, and in a few months was sent to Princeton as agent for the Company. Associated with him as partner, is J. L. Brady, and in June, 1880, they opened a restaurant, which they operate in connection with the Insurance business.

JOSEPH A. ROSS is a native of Jefferson, Maine, his birth dating the 22d of September, 1829. He received his education at the Waterville College, from which he graduated in 1856, and has since devoted the greater portion of his time to teaching school. Came to Minnesota in 1869, was admitted to the Bar in 1876, and has since divided his time between the practice of law and school teaching.

SYLVESTER RUSSELL was born on the 6th of July, 1833, in the state of Ohio, where he was reared on a farm. Came to Minnesota in 1856, and located on a farm in Hastings, remaining till 1870. Then, after living on a farm in Baldwin, Sherburne county, six years, he came to Princeton, where he owns a home, and works in the flouring mills.

CHARLES H. RINES, one of the early settlers of this region, was born in Maine, on the 1st of December, 1842. His parents came to Princeton in 1856, and on the breaking out of the war, our subject enlisted in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. After serving three years he returned to Princeton, and when twenty-five years of age, opened a general mercantile establishment, which he has since continued. He has also been in the lumber business for the past six years, with Leon-

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and Pratt as partner. During the season they employ about fifty men.

HON. SAMUEL ROSS, deceased, was born near Fairfield, Mercer county, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of August, 1812. He was educated at the common schools and at the Western Reserve College, Ohio, but on account of ill health did not graduate from the latter institution. He came west soon after leaving college, and engaged in teaching school in Illinois. In 1839, removed to Marion, Linn county, Iowa, where he acquired considerable property, and married Miss Mary Vaughn on the 12th of December, 1841. Two daughters were born to them; Myra, the elder, died in early girlhood; and Olive, now Mrs. A. P. Baker, resides in Princeton. Some time after his marriage, Mr. Ross moved to Hazel Green, Wisconsin. About 1846, he returned to Marion, where the death of his wife occurred in 1851. The following year he engaged in buying cattle and horses in Iowa, and selling them in Minnesota. He soon after settled in St. Anthony, (now East Minneapolis) and in 1855 came to Princeton and purchased from Albert B. Damon his squatter's right to the land now comprising a part of the town site of Princeton. The following year (1856) he, in company with John S. Prince, Dorilius Morrison, Richard Chute, and James W. Gillam, platted and laid out the town. Although others had kept "stopping places," Mr. Ross was the first to open a hotel in this county, and continued in this business until his death. Until 1869, he was in the old Princeton House, a large log hotel substantially built, sided up and painted; but in the latter year, he completed the North Star Hotel, a large three story frame building, with thirty sleeping rooms.

It was Mr. Ross who built and operated the first mill, and blacksmith shop in this county. He also ran an express between Princeton and St. Anthony for the convenience of passengers, and carried the first mails. In 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Justice, of Marion, Iowa, who survives him. Mr. Ross was an active business man, and upon the organization of Mille Lac county in 1860, was appointed by Gov. Ramsey, Judge of Probate. He also held other official positions, always acceptably, and in 1868, represented this district in the State Legislature. Early in life he was a prominent anti-slavery man, even when to be an abolitionist was to be unpopular with the clergy. Mr. Ross was an early advo-

cate of total abstinence, and foremost in church matters. He was one of the founders of the first Congregational church at Marion, Iowa, and also at St. Anthony and Princeton, the one at St. Anthony being (it is thought) the first of that denomination in this State. His health was never the best, but his mind was active, and before it became impaired, he was distinguished in the localities in which he lived as a public debater, and was a man of quite decided literary tastes. About 1873, he suffered a stroke of paralysis, since which time his faculties gradually failed, resulting in softening of the brain, causing his death on the 9th of October, 1881.

BENJAMIN SOULE was born on the 16th of March, 1820, in Piscataquis county, Maine, where he was reared, and when old enough, became engaged in the lumber business. In 1854, came to Minnesota, remained three years in St. Anthony, then to Princeton. In 1867, he built a steam saw-mill, with a thirty horse-power engine and a capacity for cutting 10,000 feet per day. This mill was operated till May, 1881, when it was torn down and a larger one built, the latter being situated about eighty rods below the junction of the east and west branches of the river, and is noticed elsewhere. Mr. Soule also built a flouring mill in 1870, which he operated till June, 1874, and sold to J. T. D. Sadley, the present owner. Our subject has served as County Attorney several years, since his residence in this town.

JOHN T. D. SADLEY was born in the year 1834, in England, where he was reared to Agricultural pursuits. Came to America in 1852, residing three years in Ohio, then to Minnesota in 1856, locating a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Becker, Sherburne county, which he still owns. Since 1874, Mr. Sadley has been a resident of Princeton, having in that year purchased the flouring mill of B. Soule, which he still operates. He also owns a mill about a mile and a half up the west branch of Rum river.

G. J. SOWDEN, son of William Sowden, a resident of Anoka, is a native of Massachusetts. The family came to Minnesota when our subject was but a child, and located in Stillwater, where he resided most of the time till coming to Princeton in 1880. In that year the Princeton Bank was established by Coehren & Clark, with Mr. Sowden as cashier; but in April, 1881, the proprietors sold to the present owners, Mr. Sowden being cashier and part owner.





REED E. SANFORD is a native of Livingston county, New York, born in the year 1844. At the age of fourteen years, he removed to Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in farming until he enlisted in the Second United States Cavalry, and after a service of three years returned to Pennsylvania. Came to Princeton in 1870, and owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section nineteen, which is his home.

SMITH N. SOULE, son of Benjamin Saule, was born in Brownville, Maine, on the 22d of February, 1852. He has resided with his parents most of his life and for the past eight years has been in company with his father in the lumber and mill business.

GILBERT L. SANFORD was born on the 4th of March, 1833, in Livingston county, New York, where he remained on his father's farm till 1854. Then was engaged on neighboring farms for a time, after which he learned the carpenter trade. Came to Mille Lac county in 1859, and pre-empted a farm on which he has made great improvements and now resides.

MOSES A. TIBBETTS is a native of New Sharon, Maine, born in the year 1828. He was engaged in the lumber business in his native place, till coming to St. Anthony, Minnesota, in 1855, making it his home ten years. Came from the latter place to Princeton, where he resides three months of the year; the balance being spent about twenty-five miles up the east branch of the Rum river, where, for the past six years, he has kept a stopping place. Mr. Tibbetts is also engaged in the lumber business sending a crew of men in the woods every winter.

ALMON R. TOBEY was born in Somerville, Maine, on the 12th of October, 1846. When sixteen years of age, he enlisted in the Ninth Maine Volunteer Infantry, serving two years and eleven months. Came to Minnesota in 1868, and after living in Hutchinson and Henderson each one year, came to Princeton, and engaged in the jewelry business, which he still follows. Since 1873, he has operated a photograph parlor in connection with the above business.

ISAAC W. VEALE is a son of Richard P. Veale, who came to Princeton in 1866, located a farm in section eleven and died a few months after. Our subject was born in Indiana, in the year 1851. He devotes the summer months to the improvement of the farm located by his father, and spends the winters in the lumber woods.

ALEXANDER L. VAN WORMER was born in 1827, in the state of New York, where he was reared on a farm, and afterward followed the same occupation in Illinois and Howard county, Iowa. Came to Princeton in 1873, and took a claim in section nine, but resides in the village most of the time. He is engaged in teaming from Elk River to Princeton, and spends the winter months in the pineries. Mr. Van Wormer also owns a farm in Traverse county.

BENJAMIN F. WHITNEY is a native of Allegany county, New York, his birth dating the 24th of December, 1836. He learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked in his native State till 1855, and removed to Illinois. Came to Princeton in the spring of the following year, and carried on the old log tavern during the summer. In the fall, took a claim in section thirty-four, where he resided three years; then moved one and a half miles west of the village, and a year later, to the village, still carrying on both farms. In 1862, he removed to Hasting, worked at his trade two years, then enlisted in the Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving till the close of the war. After receiving his discharge, he returned to Princeton and has lived here ever since. In 1874, Mr. Whitney built a feed mill, and also owns a wagon shop. His younger son, Elmer E., is a partner in the latter business; and the elder son, Harley W., operates the feed mill. Our subject has filled several county and town offices, and is now Chairman of the board of County Commissioners.

HENRY WEBSTER, is a native of Orono, Penobscot county, Maine, born on the 4th of April, 1852. He was engaged in the lumber business in his native State till coming to Minnesota, in May, 1874. Then was employed by W. D. Washburn to take charge of the lumber yard in Minneapolis, for two years; thence, in the same employ, to Anoka, till October, 1879. Came to this place on the latter date, and purchased the American House, of which he is now proprietor. The house is a two story frame building, containing twenty-six rooms.

JOSEPH A. WALKER was born on the 11th of November, 1813, in the state of Connecticut. When young, his parents moved to New York, where he learned the shoe-maker's trade, at which he has since devoted his time. In 1860, he moved to Chicago, Illinois, and in 1875, to Galena; thence to Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained till July,



1878, and came to Princeton. Mr. Walker has since carried on a boot and shoeshop, which is the only one in the village.

## GREENBUSH.

### CHAPTER CLVI.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—FIRST THINGS—  
ORGANIZATION—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIO-  
GRAPHICAL.

This town originally embraced four Congressional townships, lying along the western line of the county, beginning with the southwestern township of the county, and so remained until the organization of the town of Milo, which reduced its area one-fourth. Near the south line of the town is the border of the heavy timber which extends many miles northward, and the dense forest suggested to the early settlers the name adopted—Greenbush. The entire area embraced is about 69,120 acres, of which 1,236 are improved.

The surface is rolling, and somewhat broken near some of the streams. In the southeastern part of the south township, is a small tract of brush prairie, with light, sandy soil; the remainder of the township having a rich, heavy soil, heavily timbered, with extensive wild meadows intervening. In the next township north, is a fine growth of hardwood timber, with tracts of pine, much of which has been removed by lumbermen.

The town is watered by Battle and Estes brooks, and Rum river in the south, and in the northern part by the West Branch of Rum river, also the main stream, Chase Brook, and several affluents of Rum river further north. Among the first settlers within the present limits of the town were: Philander P. Farrington, a native of Maine, whose father also came with him, the two settling on sections twelve and thirteen, in 1856. The former is still living on the original farm. Robert Ceraw, a native of Ireland, came in 1856, and located in section twenty-five, where he has since resided. The same year, Murdock Campbell, of Scottish birth, came here from Canada, and selected his present home in section eleven. Isaac Gillespie, B. S. Farrington, L. Twitchel, Mr. Perkins, and others, were also among the early settlers.

The first religious services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Twitchel, Congregationalist, at the resi-

dence of B. S. Farrington, about the year 1857, and by others of the same denomination, at other private houses, until the erection of a schoolhouse, after which that was used for preaching, and other public meetings. For the past few years the Methodists have occupied the field, the minister stationed at Princeton officiating.

Catholic services were held in what is known as the French Settlement, in 1868, by Father Maurer, at the residence of Joseph Robideaux, in section thirty-two. Soon after the residence of Louis Rushford became their place of worship, and in 1880, they had completed a new church near by, which has been used at somewhat irregular intervals since.

The first school was taught about 1860, in the residence of B. S. Farrington, by M. A. Twitchel, who was paid by subscription. About two years later a small log schoolhouse was built, which in time was replaced by a frame building. This was destroyed by fire, and soon after, the present building was brought here from Princeton, and is near the site of the old one, section twenty-five.

The first school in district number five was opened in the spring of 1869, at the residence of M. Kenely, in section twenty-eight, Miss Mary Jane Kenely being employed as teacher. In 1870, a schoolhouse was built on section twenty, which has since been in use.

In district number four a building was erected for school purposes in 1867. It was located on section two, and was in use until replaced by the present structure, in the spring of 1881.

A Post-office—Estes Brook—was removed from the town of Milo, and established at the residence of William Huggins, in section six, in the fall of 1880.

Greenbush was organized in 1869, the first meeting being held at the school house on section two, at which the following officers were elected: Supervisors, B. Babb, Chairman, C. W. Maddox and George Wetzal; Clerk, George S. Maxfield; Treasurer and Assessor, B. S. Farrington; Justices of the Peace, Samuel Orton and M. Kenely; the last named, however, did not qualify. The same year the territory was dismembered by the organization of the town of Milo, north of which are but few settlers, the major portion being in the south congressional township.

The agricultural report of 1880 furnishes the following as the products of the town: wheat, 6,339 bushels; oats, 5,832 bushels; corn, 5,927

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 1, 1915  
 Vol. 16, No. 19

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# ORIGINAL ARTICLES

## THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND THE PUBLIC

By J. H. HARRIS, M.D., F.R.C.P.

From the University of London, England

(Continued from page 1)

The medical profession is a body of men who are trained to deal with the diseases of man. They are trained to observe, to think, and to act. They are trained to be honest, to be fair, and to be just. They are trained to be loyal to their patients, to their colleagues, and to their profession. They are trained to be brave, to be strong, and to be wise. They are trained to be good, to be kind, and to be true. They are trained to be the best of men, to be the best of doctors, and to be the best of all.

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bushels; barley, 96 bushels; rye, 407 bushels; buckwheat, 60 bushels; potatoes, 2,904 bushels; beans, 46 bushels; sugar-cane, 40 gallons; cultivated hay, 56 tons; wild hay, 1,417 tons; clover seed, 383 bushels; tobacco, 40 pounds; wool, 408 pounds; butter, 14,827 pounds; cheese, 900 pounds; and honey, 1,116 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

MURDOCK CAMPBELL was born in 1823, in the Highlands of Scotland, where he remained until eight years of age. Then came with his parents to Canada, and when old enough, engaged in the lumber business and was soon made foreman in a lumber camp. In 1856, he came to Minnesota and located his present farm, being one of the first settlers in the town. Since his residence here, Mr. Campbell has devoted his time to the cultivation of hay, which he sells to the lumbermen, and is also engaged in freighting. He was united in marriage, on the 24th of July, 1852, to Margaret McCosham, who has borne him four children.

ROBERT CERAW, one of the early settlers of this town, was born in Ireland, on the 7th of November, 1826. His parents came to Canada when he was but an infant, our subject making that his home till twenty years of age. Then, after living in New York about ten years, he came to this place in 1856, and has since resided here.

MICHAEL CORBIT is a native of Ireland, born on the 20th of August, 1827. He landed in America in the spring of 1847, spent several years in the states of Massachusetts and New York, and came west, locating in Wisconsin in 1855. Three years later, he removed to Shakopee, and engaged in farming and on steamers on the Minnesota river for about ten years. Since 1868, has been a resident of this town, locating first in section twenty-six and subsequently coming to his present farm. Miss Ann McQuinn became his wife on the 3d of October, 1858. They have three children.

ALEXANDER DE SHAW was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 20th of May, 1838. Both his father and grandfather visited this section of the country at a very early date; the latter spending twenty-two years in the employ of the Fur Company, coming as early as 1800. When the subject of this sketch was an infant his parents moved to New York, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, remaining till 1871, when he came to this township and located his present farm. He has held a number of local offices, and

since 1875, has been Assessor of the town. The marriage of Mr. De Shaw with Miss Eliza A. Grow occurred on the 2d of March, 1859. Of ten children, the result of this union, eight are living.

PHILANDER P. FARRINGTON, the first settler in this town, is a native of Andover, Maine, in which place he learned the blacksmith trade. After living in Portland for some time, he came to Minnesota, engaged in the lumber business on the Rum river, and staked out a claim on the land now included in the village of Princeton; but returning, after an absence, found it taken by another. He located the farm which has since been his home, in 1856. Mr. Farrington enlisted in Company C, of the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, serving till the close of the war. Was united in marriage with Miss Melinda Orton, on the 19th of February, 1865. They have had five children, four of whom are living.

BENJAMIN S. FARRINGTON dates his birth on the 3d of February, 1827, in Oxford county, Maine, where he was reared on a farm and resided until twenty-one years of age. Then removed to Massachusetts, remaining but a few months, however, and returned to Maine. In 1852, he took a trip to California, and being quite successful in mining, remained several years. Came to Minnesota in 1855, and the following year located his present farm. Mr. Farrington was the first Assessor and Treasurer of the town, holding both offices two years; also held the office of County Commissioner two terms.

ISAAC GILLESPIE, one of the pioneers of this town, was born near Belfast, Ireland, in 1829. He resided with his parents until coming to America in 1857, and the spring of the following year came to the farm which he has since made his home. On the 7th of June, 1858, he was married to Margaret Henry.

PAUL GROFF, a native of Otsego county, New York, was born on the 27th of December, 1820. When twenty-two years old he enlisted in Company I, of the Fourth United States Artillery; was discharged at the end of five years, and re-enlisted in Company K, of the First United States Dragoons, serving one year. Then, after living on a farm in Iowa, he came to Sherburne county, Minnesota, in about 1859, and finally to his present home, which is located on section twenty-four; he also owns land on which he is making improvements, in section one.

NELSON A. GROW was born on the 14th of No-



vember, 1841, in Franklin county, New York, which was his home until coming to Minnesota in 1869. Came directly to this place, and now owns a farm of two hundred acres. Mr. Grow has served the town as Supervisor three years, and for the past two years has been Treasurer. Miss Adaline Jesmer became his wife on the 3d of July, 1864, and eight children have been born to them.

FRANK HENRY was born in the northern part of Ireland on the 3d of December, 1819. He resided with his parents until coming to America in 1849. After remaining a few years in New York, he came to New Jersey, where he was married to Miss Margaret Hoey in 1855. They came to Minnesota and located on a farm near St. Paul till 1858; then removed to Oak Grove, Anoka county; and in 1867, came to this place, having since made it their home. The union has been blessed with nine children.

A. D. JESMER is a native of Franklin county, New York, born on the 7th of June, 1846. At the age of twenty years, he commenced life for himself; engaged in the lumber business in his native State for a year, then came to St. Paul, Minnesota, and the same year (1867) located a claim in section thirty-two, Greenbush township, and has since lived here. Mr. Jesmer was a member of the board of County Commissioners for six successive years, and is at present Town Clerk, having held the office several terms. He was united in marriage with Julia Ann Robideaux, on the 9th of September, 1868.

JOSEPH JESMER is also a native of Franklin county, New York, and was born in the year 1848. He came to Minnesota in 1867, purchased land in this township the same year, and now has a well improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Ann Robideaux. She has borne him fourteen children, thirteen of whom are living.

MICHAEL KENELY is a native of Ireland, born on the 16th of March, 1812. At the age of fourteen years he commenced learning the nail maker's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of seven years, then was employed in his native place till 1839. After coming to this country in the latter year, he resided six years on a farm in Canada, thence to Washington county, Wisconsin, until coming to his present farm in 1868. Mr. Kenely was the first Justice of the Peace in this town. He was married on the 5th of October, 1848, to

Miss Ellen Larkin, who has borne him eight children, seven of whom are living.

L. S. LIBBY dates his birth on the 16th of June, 1850, in Kennebec county, Maine, which was his home until eight years of age, when his parents came to Minnesota and located in Princeton. Our subject was engaged in the pinneries during the winters, and in 1878, purchased a farm in this township, which has since been his home, devoting a portion of his time to the lumber business. He was united in marriage on the 4th of November, 1873, to Miss Etta M. Smith.

SAMUEL MARSHALL is a native of Carrol county, Ohio, born on the 3d of April, 1830. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and at the age of nineteen commenced learning the trade of a carriage maker, at which he was employed three years. Then, for three years, studied medicine, and in 1859, came to Minnesota and practiced his profession seven years in Anoka county. After residing on a farm in Richland county, Wisconsin, he returned to Minnesota and to his present farm in about 1873; has since devoted his time to tilling the soil and the practice of medicine.

SAMUEL M. ORTON was born on the 20th of June, 1847, in Canada, where he lived until nine years of age, and came with his parents to Minnesota. They first located in what is now the town of Milo, remaining about four years, and came to this township where they still reside. When our subject was twenty-one years old, he purchased his present farm, and was married on the 12th of June, of the following year, his wife's maiden name being Maribe J. Dunning. Of six children, the result of this union, four are living.

LOUIS ROCHEFORD dates his birth the 11th of September, 1825, in Quebec, Canada; where he learned the carpenter trade. Came to the Lake Superior copper mines in 1852, and opened a hotel, which he conducted three years, and then removed to Superior City, where he was one of the early settlers. Since 1868, he has been a resident of Greenbush township, filled some of its offices; and has a fine farm. Was married to Miss Caroline Bertrand on the 22d of September, 1861. They have three children.

JOSEPH ROBIDEAUX, one of the early settlers of this town, dates his birth in Franklin county, New York, on the 22d of August, 1821. He resided with his parents until 1847, when he purchased a farm in the same county, making that and St. Lawrence county his home till coming to St. Paul,





Minnesota, in 1863. There he operated a saw-mill until 1866, when he located his present farm, and the following spring brought his family here. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Jesmer on the 1st of November, 1847. They have had twelve children, eight of whom are living.

PETER ROBIDEAUX, also a native of Franklin county, New York, was born on the 12th of November, 1830. When quite young he engaged as a sailor on the Lakes and St. Lawrence river; was soon made Captain, and finally purchased a steamer of his own, continuing in the business for about seventeen years. Then, after farming in New York for some time, he came to Minnesota in 1868, and purchased his present farm which he has since greatly improved. Married Julia Jesmer on the 2d of August, 1853. They have thirteen children.

PETER S. ROBIDEAUX, a son of the subject of our last sketch, was born in the same county as his father, on the 27th of March, 1858, and came with him to Minnesota, residing at home until 1879. He was employed in the woods and on the river until purchasing his present farm in the latter year. He was married to Miss Sophie De Shaw, who has borne him one child, named Edmond.

GIDEON B. REVES was born in Portage county, Ohio, in the year 1826. In 1857, he came to Minnesota and opened a farm in Hassan, Hennepin county, on which he lived three years; then, after living in Minneapolis two years engaged in painting, he returned to his farm and remained until 1866. In the latter year Mr. Reves came to his present farm in Greenbush, Mille Lacs county, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres. He served for a time as County Commissioner.

J. J. A. ROBIDEAUX dates his birth on the 15th of August, 1852, in Franklin county, New York. His parents came to Greenbush when our subject was quite young, and at the age of seventeen years, he commenced labor as a sawyer, to which he has since devoted the greater portion of his time; having been employed in the mills of Minneapolis, Auoka, Princeton, and Santiago, Sherburne county.

DONALT SCOTT is a native of Canada, in which place his father died when our subject was quite young, and he was left in charge of the old homestead. In 1872, he came to Minnesota, purchased a farm in this place and has since made it his home. Miss Margaret Orton became his wife on the 2d of February, 1857. They have four children.

REUBEN SEABY is a native of Stafford county,

New Hampshire, born on the 19th of September, 1812. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and resided in his native State until coming to Minnesota in 1857. He has lived in this county ever since, but in 1862, removed to his present farm. Mr. Seaby was united in marriage, on the 21st of June, 1855, with Mrs. Eunice Moulton, who was born in the same county as himself. They have had six children, five of whom are living.

## MILO.

### CHAPTER CLVII.

DESCRIPTIVE—EARLY SETTLEMENT—ORGANIZATION  
—FIRST THINGS—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—BIOGRAPHICAL.

The town of Milo was carved out from the original territory embraced in Greenbush, as mentioned in the history of that town. It is the second congressional township north of the county line south, and in the west tier of townships. Its area is about 23,000 acres, of which 185 are under cultivation. It is heavily timbered, and originally contained some fine tracts of pine, now removed. The west branch of Rum river, and Estes brook, are the principal streams, the former flowing through the town in a southeasterly direction. The surface is somewhat broken along the streams; otherwise it is gently undulating, and the soil mostly a dark loam, with extensive tracts of wild meadow. Among the early settlers in this town were: John C. Hatch, now a resident of Princeton, and mentioned among the personnels of that place, and William Fifield, now of Sauk Rapids, in 1856, both of whom were engaged in lumbering; Samuel Orton, now of Greenbush, and C. Pinkham, a native of Canada, who came in 1866. The earliest among the present settlers were: Sylvester Cone, of Ohio; Daniel Algnire, of Canada, and M. E. Northway. Allen McDonald came about the time, or before those last named, but has since removed.

The organization of Milo was the outgrowth of dissatisfaction arising at the first town meeting under the town organization of Greenbush, and the same year Milo was organized with the following officers: Supervisors, Sylvester Cone, Chairman, C. Pinkham, and George Crooks; Clerk and Assessor, P. I. Northway; Treasurer, M. E. North-



way; Justices of the Peace, J. H. Farnsworth, and J. W. Babcock; and Constables, D. Alguire and M. E. Northway.

The first child born in the town was Alvird, daughter of William Fifield, in 1856.

The first school was opened in the house of Caleb Pinkham, about the year 1868, under the supervision of Miss Helen Cone, and was a private school. In 1869, a school house was completed, in which a term of school was taught that year. In district number seven, the first school was opened in 1874, by Miss Nellie Ryan.

The first religious services were held at the residence of William Fifield, by Rev R. Walker, in 1857. In the new settlement meetings were held at the school house, soon after its completion, by Rev. William Kerr, and in 1879, by Bev. H. Hunt, of Princeton.

A Post-office was established in 1874, John A. Simmons being Postmaster, with the office at his residence, where it remained until removed to Greenbush, in 1880. Mail has been supplied weekly from Sauk Rapids, when not rendered impossible by the condition of the roads.

The agricultural report for 1880 show the following products: Wheat, 802 bushels; oats, 962 bushels; corn, 280 bushels; barley, 114 bushels; buckwheat, 64 bushels; potatoes, 570 bushels; sugar-cane, 10 gallons; cultivated hay, 47 tons; wild hay, 444 tons; wool, 46 pounds; butter, 2,325 pounds.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

GEORGE CROOK dates his birth on the 2d of October, 1827, in Carroll county, Indiana, where he engaged in farming until 1855. Then came to Crawford county, Wisconsin, and in 1867, to this township, where he owns a farm and has filled several local offices. Was County Commissioner for three years.

SYLVESTER CONE, one of the organizers of the towns of Milo and Greenbush, is a native of Trumbull county, Ohio, born on the 18th of March, 1810. He has always followed farming, remaining in his native State until coming to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1862. Came to this township in 1866, and pre-empted his present land. Mr. Cone

filled the office of Justice of the Peace for a time, and is at present Town Clerk.

JOHN A. EMMONS dates his birth in Greene county, New York, on the 26th of February, 1832. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and located in Wabasha county, which was his home several years. In 1862, enlisted in the Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving with Grant, Sherman, and Thomas, and when in Nashville, Tennessee, was wounded, but served to the close of the war. On his return, Mr. Emmons resided in St. Cloud for a time, and in the spring of 1866, came to this place and purchased a farm. Since 1874, he has been Postmaster at Estes Brook, until the removal of the office in 1880.

MIRON E. NORTHWAY was born on the 8th of September, 1847, in Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming and driving stage until 1864, when he enlisted in Company A, of the Sixth Ohio Cavalry. After a short term of service he was discharged for disability, and in 1865, came to Rice county, Minnesota, and the fall of the following year to this township. Since his residence here Mr. Northway has filled a number of local offices. Was married on the 28th of October, 1866, to Miss Lucy Cone, who has borne him four children.

COMFORT PINKHAM, a native of Canada, was born on the 20th of July, 1831. His parents removed to Ohio when our subject was but three years old. In 1850, he came to Wisconsin, resided on a farm in Greene county seven years; then moved to Crawford county, and in 1861 enlisted in Company I, of the Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served three years and eleven months, and participated in twenty-five engagements, among which were the battles of Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, second Bull Run, and Battle of the Wilderness, and on receiving his discharge, returned to Crawford county. In 1866, he came to this township which has since been his home. Has been a member of the board of Supervisors since the organization of the town, and also filled the office of County Commissioner one term. He was united in marriage with Miss A. Norton on the 24th of July, 1853. They have had five children, four of whom are living.





## SAINT LOUIS COUNTY.

### CHAPTER CLVIII.

EARLY HISTORY — DESCRIPTIVE — DULUTH — CITY HISTORY — CHURCHES — SOCIETIES — NEWSPAPERS — ST. PAUL AND DULUTH RAILROAD — BIOGRAPHICAL.

As early as 1640, adventurous traders had reached the extremity of Lake Superior, and brought to Quebec the news of the existence of copper upon Isle Royale and at other points.

Groselliers, and his brother-in-law, Radisson, in 1659, were here, and the Pigeon River, now a portion of the boundary between Canada and the United States of America, upon early French maps bears the name of the former, of whom a notice will be found in the First Chapter of this volume.

In the year 1662, Groselliers arrived in Montreal from a journey to Hudson's Bay. In 1665, a company of traders reached La Pointe, and Father Allouez, a priest, accompanied them, and established there the "Mission of the Holy Spirit." During his brief residence there, he coasted with the traders around the western and northern shores of Lake Superior as far as the tributary of Lake Nipigon, and at Fond du Lac, near the present site of the city of Du Luth, he saw some Sioux, and on the fourth page of this history, will be found his description of this tribe.

Marquette succeeded Allouez, but the mission in 1671, was abandoned, as the Hurons and Ottawas moved eastward, from fear of the Sioux.

Daniel Greysolon Du Luth in the summer of 1679, entered the Sioux country by way of the Saint Louis river. In the thirtieth chapter of this work it will be seen that in September of the same year, he held a council with the Assiniboines and other tribes, at the extremity of Lake Superior, to induce them to make peace with the Nadowaysioux, their common enemy.

In June, 1680, he was at or near the site of the city which preserves his name, and from thence went eighty leagues on the south side of the Lake to the mouth of a river, which he ascended, and

then made a portage to the Saint Croix River which he descended to the Mississippi.

It was not unusual for traders and explorers to compliment their friends by attaching the names of saints whose names had been given to their friends at the time of baptism, to the rivers which floated their canoes, or, of which they heard from the Indians.

Hayes river, which flows into Hudson's Bay, was called Saint Theresa, by Groselliers, in compliment to his wife, Theresa; upon the early French maps, the Assiniboine river is marked St. Charles, in compliment to Charles Beauharnois, the Governor of Canada, at the time of its discovery by the French, and one of its branches was named St. Pierre, in honor of Pierre Verendrye, the leader of exploration in that region. So, it is probable the name St. Louis was given to the River Fond-du-Lac of the most ancient maps, because the French who first ascended it desired to compliment Count Frontenac, Governor General of Canada at the time of Du Luth's exploration, whose family name was Louis Buade. The latter name, Buade, was given by Du Luth to the sheet of water now called Mille Laes.

The bay at the head of Lake Superior was called West Bay, and on a map engraved in London, in 1778, to illustrate Carver's Travels, the site of Du Luth is designated as Boston.

The voyageurs of Canada called all Englishmen Bostonnois, because Canadians traded at Boston, which two hundred years ago was one of the most populous and most important commercial towns of the English Colonies.

Groselliers, the first white man to explore Minnesota before the year 1670, traded with its citizens, and a native of Boston co-operated with him in developing the Hudson Bay fur trade. After the French, by the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, ceded this country to Great Britain, English traders came to the head of Lake Superior. In 1767, toward the latter end of July, Carver coasted along the shores of West Bay on his way to the rendez-



vous of English traders at Grand Portage. His companion was a trader named Goddard, and on one of his maps the Bois Brule is called Goddard's river. The name, Boston, was probably given to the point at the mouth of the Saint Louis river, because here was an English trading post.

It was not until the year 1820, that an expedition, under the auspices of the United States of America, reached the head of Lake Superior. Governor Cass, of Michigan, on the 5th of July, arrived with a party on a tour to the Upper Mississippi. His historiographer wrote as follows: "The western termination of the Lake in the great bay of Fond du Lac denotes a double or masked shore, which appears to have been formed of pebbles and sand thrown up by the tempests, at the distance of a mile or two outside of the original shore.

"The result is shown by an elongated piece of water, resembling a lake, which receives at the north, the river St. Louis, and the Agoche, or Left Hand river, at its south extremity.

"About three miles above the mouth of the river, we land at a Chippewa village. While exchanging the usual salutations with them we noticed the children of an African who had intermarried with this tribe. The children were the third in descent from Bango, a freed man of a former British commanding officer at the island of Michillimackinack. They possessed as black skins as the father, a fact which may be accounted for by observing what I afterwards learned, that the marriages were in the case of the grandfather and father with the pure Indian."

Until 1854, Saint Louis county was seldom visited by any white men, except traders and missionaries to the Indians.

The large area embraced in St. Louis county was included in the lands ceded to the United States by the Indians, at the treaty consummated at La Point, in 1854, at which the old Chief, Hole-in-the-Day, was an object of marked interest to all present. The peninsula known as Minnesota Point had for years been a favorite resort for the Lake Superior Bands, and had become their burial ground.

The surface is undulating, and in some parts quite broken. The area of the county is 6,500 square miles. Its principal streams are the St. Louis river and its tributaries, which drain the southern portion, flowing into Lake Superior at its western extremity. Along this stream is found some of the most picturesque scenery in the North-

west, the "Dalles of the St. Louis" having gained the admiration of thousands of travelers who have been favored with a panoramic view of this charming spot, in passing over the St. Paul and Duluth railroad, north of the Northern Pacific Junction.

The country in the vicinity of Duluth is mainly woodland, consisting of pine, birch, maple, spruce, tamarack, oak, poplar, etc., with tracts of wild meadow. The soil near the lake is a red marly clay, intermixed with sand, which improves in quality as it recedes from the lake. As yet, the settlement is confined to that portion adjacent to Lake Superior, and on the St. Louis river. Although lying in the northern part of the State, the efforts thus far made in farming have been attended with satisfactory results, and such as to justify more extensive investments in agriculture. Small grains, roots, and grass yield good returns, and it is claimed that no county in the State excels, while few equal this for clover, while in fruit raising this locality compares favorably with other portions of the State. The first attempt at farming in this region was in 1820, when the American Fur Company sent a limited amount of stock and farming utensils to Fond-du-Lac, which was then one of their trading posts. About four acres were cultivated, and it is claimed that a good crop of potatoes and garden vegetables and a fair crop of corn was the result of the effort. The statements are furnished in Schoolcraft's journal, and if true, this was the first agricultural effort in the territory now embraced in Minnesota, being three years before Lieutenant Camp's experiment at Fort Snelling. We have no information as to the length of time this miniature farm was cultivated, or what further results were accomplished.

The county was organized in 1856, and the following officers appointed by the Governor: Clerk of the Court, J. B. Culver; Sheriff, A. J. Ellis; Register of Deeds, R. H. Barrett; Auditor, I. E. Brown. An election was held in the fall of the same year, at the building known as the Nettleton claim shanty. Unfortunately we have no authentic records of this meeting. On the 4th of January, 1858, the first board of County Commissioners met at the office of the Register of Deeds. The Board consisted of E. C. Martin, Chairman, Vose Palmer, and Z. J. Brown. At their second meeting, January 19th, six school districts were created; and at their third, April 5th, the towns of Carlton, Duluth, Martin, and Carp River were





formed. From subsequent changes, there are now ten organized school districts, and the towns are, Oneota, Fond du Lac, Rice Lake, Hermann, and Gresen.

The history of early settlements reaches back to the missionary efforts, about the middle of the present century. Rev. Edmund F. Ely, representing the American Board of Foreign Missions, was at Oneota in 1856, and Mr. Spencer was here at an early date, instructing the Indians in agriculture, education and religion. While these had little to do with the actual settlement, they nevertheless gave direction to the tide of immigration, and thus indirectly had their effect in shaping the future movements. Superior City was located in 1853, platted in 1854, and the plat recorded in September of that year by a company organized under the title of Proprietors of Superior. Previous to this, in the winter of 1850-51, George E. Nettleton and J. B. Culver conducted a trading post at Fond du Lac, and in the spring each selected a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, under an act of Congress relating to the establishment of trading posts. Their claims were on Minnesota Point, where George E. Nettleton established a post, and engaged in the fur trade with the Indians. Culver and William Nettleton, feeling insecure in a region wholly given over to Indians, removed to St. Paul and engaged in mercantile life. The claims, under the supervision of Mr. Nettleton, remained undisturbed and uncoveted until the spring of 1854, when it became evident that additional measures were necessary to insure their permanent possession. During the summer the North Shore Land Company was organized, composed of J. B. Culver, George E. Nettleton, and Orrin W. Rice, who took possession of the entire water front from Minnesota Point to Grassy Point, each member of the Company establishing an individual claim to a portion of the territory. Nettleton's claim was on Minnesota Point, Culver's extended from the Point some distance up the hill, and along the shore to Rice's Point, and Rice's claim was on the Point now bearing his name. These claims were made under provision of the act already referred to, while all subsequent claims were under the usual Government rights.

In 1856, the village of Oneota, on St. Louis Bay, was platted by William McCracken, R. H. Bacon, and Edmund F. Ely, the site being selected by the latter, who afterward removed to California.

The site selected was one of rare natural beauty, and but for the sudden rise of Duluth, would doubtless have exhibited remarkable development long ere this.

Fond-du-Lac village, on the left bank of the St. Louis river, about fifteen miles from Duluth, was platted in 1856. This place has already been mentioned as a trading post of the American Fur Company, and the remains of some of the old buildings are yet visible, as was also traces of the old garden, until within the last few years. It is now a station on the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad, and among other advantages, has a fine water-power.

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## DULUTH.

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This city is situated at the head of Lake Superior, resting upon the lake and Duluth Bay, on a gently sloping hill, with a southern exposure, and sheltered from the north and west winds by the bluffs and timber back of the city.

It has a natural drainage to the lake, and viewed from the lake or bay, presents one of the most charming prospects met throughout the Northwest. Being at the head of navigation, forming the gateway of commerce between the East and West, possessing the largest harbor on the lake, and being the terminal point of the Northern Pacific railroad, its importance as a commercial point needs no extended notice. The harbor is formed by Minnesota and Wisconsin Points, which together inclose a bay several miles in length, furnishing harbor room for more than the entire fleet of the great lakes, and so sheltered as to insure perfect safety. There are two entrances to this harbor; one being the natural passage between the extremities of the points named, which is about four hundred feet wide, and an artificial passage, two hundred and fifty feet wide, cut through Minnesota Point, about half a mile from the main land. In this excellent land-locked harbor, vessels may lay at anchor during the severest gales that visit the lakes, and either passage may be entered without risk by the largest vessels.

A substantial lighthouse was constructed, at Government expense, at the extremity of Minnesota Point, guarding that entrance, and the people of Duluth constructed the canal, or artificial en-



trance, and lighthouses, the whole costing about \$210,000, including a dyke across the middle of the bay, which was asked by the citizens of Superior City, and ordered by a decision of the United States Court. The dyke was scarce completed when the Superior City people saw their error, and sought relief by asking the builders to undo their work. They were relieved from their dilemma by a severe "northeaster," which sent the great waves rushing through the channel until their accumulated force broke down the barrier, affording free passage for vessels through the bay.

In 1850, the steamer *Manhattan* entered Duluth Bay and ascended to the trading post of the American Fur Company, on the north side of the St. Louis river, twenty-one miles from its mouth. This was the first and only steamer to reach this point on the river.

The early settlement of Duluth has already been noted, and the first claimants named. Others who came in 1855 were, Robert Emmet Jefferson, who made a claim about the Middle of Minnesota Point, and B. Shultz, whose claim extended from Jefferson's south line to the southern extremity of the point. On the mainland, S. C. McQuade, W. W. Kingsbury, and W. W. Whiteside selected claims, extending one and one-half miles along the lake shore. The arrival of "claim-jumpers" occasioned some difficulty this season, which, however, resulted in the original claimants maintaining their rights. Of several claim shanties built here in 1856, only one, that of Captain Fomey, remains. It may be seen on First street, between Second and Third Avenues west.

The first building within the present limits of Duluth was erected in the spring of 1851, by George E. Nettleton, and used by him as a trading post. It was located in what is now Superior Street, between First and Second Avenues East. It was of round logs, one story in height, with one door and one window and was in use many years. In this primitive building the first election was held, while this was only a voting precinct, known as the North Shore and Lake Superior precinct. Some who held claims here, claiming this as home, voted at this election, though actually living in Superior. During this and the following year, several additional shanties marked the chosen locations of new comers, who were forced to remove the dense growth of brush and low timber which was impenetrable except in a few already cleared

passages. There is a tradition of an Englishman of capital, who came to Duluth at an early day from Canada, bringing the entire outfit for his future dwelling by boat, in imitation of William Penn, in the old Colonial times.

The City of Duluth was platted by George E. Nettleton, J. B. Culver, Orrin W. Rice, William Nettleton, and Robert E. Jefferson, under the town site law of 1844, and the plat filed for record on the 26th of May, 1856. The tract embraced in this plat was what is now known as Upper, or Old Duluth. Under a provision of the same act an election was held, and the following officers chosen: President, George E. Nettleton; Trustees, Orrin W. Rice, William Nettleton, and Robert E. Jefferson; and Recorder, J. B. Culver. Lots were sold before the completion of the survey, and upon its completion a small tract of unclaimed land was found between the claims of George E. Nettleton and J. B. Culver, which was taken by the company, and platted as Cowell's addition.

As in individual nativity, so in the birth of this unfledged city, it became necessary to select a name. Anticipating a brilliant future, the founders of the city looked with disfavor upon the adoption of any prosaic appellation, and adopted a novel mode by which to secure a name worthy of their future anticipations. A picnic was called, to be held on Minnesota Point, each invited guest being required to present a name. In addition to the sumptuous repast, boats were in readiness to convey visitors from Superior City, and the occasion proved one of unalloyed pleasure. After a number of names had been presented and rejected, Rev. J. G. Wilson, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the acknowledged wit and genius of the party, arose and read from a slip of paper, "Du Luth," following with a fitting tribute to the memory of that hardy explorer, with incidents of his life and adventures in this region; and when at the close of his address, an expression was called for, a universal shout of assent announced the adoption of the name. Feasting and congratulations followed, and in the fast approaching twilight, the party dispersed, first drinking to the future prosperity of the "Zenith City of the Unsalted Seas."

From this time the growth of the place was rapid. In the summer of 1856, George E. Nettleton and J. B. Culver erected a steam saw-mill, dwelling-house, boarding-house, blacksmith shop, besides barns and sheds. During the same season, Portland, now a part of the city, was platted





by A. B. Robinson, James D. Ray, C. Markell, and John J. Post. This plat was on the north shore, and adjoining the Duluth plat. Although the two towns were separate and distinct, their growth was simultaneous. Rice and Jefferson built a hotel in the summer of 1857, and the same year work was commenced on a dock, offices, and a warehouse on the north shore, also a few residences.

In 1868, Duluth, Portland, and Rice's Point, until then three separate organizations, were consolidated, and all assumed the name of Duluth. Two of the old buildings of Portland are yet standing.

The growth of the city was now surprisingly rapid, and hotel and boarding house facilities were wholly inadequate to meet the public want. The Bay View House was built this season, and thronged with guests at four dollars per day, transient rates; and another large hotel was built the same season, besides stores, offices, and a large warehouse and supply store, with docks attached, on Minnesota Point. This was then a base for supplies in the work of railroad construction, and added very materially to the life of the place. The winter witnessed a temporary lull in business, but the summer of 1870 was heralded by an influx far in excess of the previous year, and by August, when the railroad arrived, the population had reached about two thousand. When the Northern Pacific railroad commenced work westward from the Junction, with terminal facilities at Duluth, the labor furnished, and the general business growing out of this enterprise, aided in maintaining the life and further growth of the city. Flushed with present success, and making no doubt of future developments, the people indulged in extravagant anticipations, and contracted immense debts in the way of county and city bonds. St. Louis county pledged her faith to the amount of \$150,000, in aid of a railroad to St. Paul; the city of Duluth \$50,000, to the same road for harbor improvements, \$30,000 to the blast furnace, \$25,000 to the Citizens' Dock, besides numerous lesser sums for other public improvements, which, including the harbor improvements, formed an indebtedness against the city of not less than \$200,000. This was the condition of things when the panic of 1873 swept over the country, crumbling every unsubstantial enterprise, and only sparing such as were "built upon a rock."

It is useless here to introduce any preambles, or attempt any useless explanations. The simple

fact appears, that Duluth had outstripped her resources, and misfortune followed.

The former influx of settlers was more than equalled by the exodus following the general depression in business. Some, whose business relations prevented their removal, and others who were not inclined to desert the ship in any event, remained, and united their efforts in restoring the place to its former prosperity. Three-fourths of the taxable property of the county was within the city, and holden for a corresponding amount of the county bonds, which, added to the direct liabilities of the city, formed an aggregate indebtedness of alarming proportions, and one which capitalists were not inclined to assume. To remove, or render manageable this immense burden, and render future progress possible, a new organization was effected, by which that portion representing the principal wealth of the place, was organized as the village of Duluth, with power to take up such bonds as the holders might surrender, issuing new ones in their stead, calling for one-fourth the original amount. This effected the needed relief, and capital again sought investment here. In the early summer of 1879, Mr. Taylor, of Michigan, leased a mill site on Minnesota Point, and soon after James Charnley & Co., from Chicago, commenced buying pine lands, and the same year a mill was built on Rice's Point, by Graff, Little, & Co., of Grand Rapids, Michigan. From this a general awakening followed. Mill sites were in demand, real estate made sudden advances, and a general revival of business ushered in the day of Duluth's permanent prosperity. With no unwieldy indebtedness, with superior dock and harbor accommodations, being the terminal point of the great railroad line of commerce between the fast growing territory west, and the eastern seaboard, the city, to all human appearances, seems destined to live in history as one of the most important commercial centers in the Northwest.

The Government land office is located here, and large business blocks, hotels, schools, and churches furnish evidence of influence, wealth and energy.

The first attorney in Duluth was E. F. Parker, who opened an office in 1868.

The first death in Duluth was that of Mary Culver, daughter of J. B. Culver, April 11, 1857.

The first marriage ceremony occurred on the 27th of April, 1870, the parties united being Captain Thomas H. Pressnell and Miss Cora E. Parker. The ceremony occurred at the residence of the



bride's father, E. F. Parker, Rev. W. R. Higgins officiating.

A private school was taught in the upper room of J. B. Culver's store building, in the summer of 1858, by Miss Jennie Woodman, with ten or twelve pupils in attendance. The next year, a rude building was erected on the north shore, in the platted portion named Portland, in which Miss Jennie Clark was first installed as teacher. The logs for this building were cut on the southern extremity of Minnesota Point, and rafted along the shore to a point nearest the location of the house, the work being voluntary on the part of the few then residing there.

A Post-office was established as early as 1856, and J. B. Culver appointed Postmaster. Mail was brought from Superior City, which place was supplied by carrier from St. Paul, over the old military road.

Religious exercises were conducted in the summer of 1856, by Rev. John Barnett, in a boarding shanty erected by the mill company. On the last Sabbath of July, 1881, this reverend gentleman, then visiting Duluth after an absence of some twenty-three years, preached in the Presbyterian Church from the same text used at his first service in 1856: "What must I do to be saved?"

The several churches and societies organized at Duluth are as follows:

#### CHURCHES.

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** was organized October 25th, 1870, with George B. Sargent and J. B. Culver, Wardens; Henry Selby, George W. Cottrell, William S. Woodbridge, Charles G. Nicholas, James S. Smith, and Charles C. Jones, Vestrymen. Services were held some time previous by Rev. Mason Gallagher, and later by Rev. J. A. Gilfillan. During the ministry of Mr. Gallagher the present church edifice was erected, partly through the liberality of Jay Cooke. Rev. Mr. Freeman was called to this parish in 1872, remaining until 1874. Revs. Joseph A. Russell, F. R. Millspangh, and Richard Wainright, successively filled the pulpit until November, 1878. The present rector, Rev. C. A. Cummings, began his labors here in July, 1879.

**THE PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** was organized January 18th, 1871, with sixteen members, and Rev. C. C. Slater, Pastor. During the first six months public services were held in a room in Pendleton's block, Superior Street. The chapel was erected in the summer of 1871, and

dedicated on the 16th of July of the same year. The first officers were: Jere Kimball and William S. Woodbridge, Deacons; J. L. Dumont, Clerk; L. H. Tenny, Treasurer; J. D. Ensign, R. S. Munger, O. K. Patterson, E. L. Smith, and L. H. Tenny, Trustees. Services are held regularly every Sabbath morning and evening. The present membership is fifty, and Rev. C. C. Slater is still in charge.

**CATHOLIC.**—A mission was established December 18th, 1869, and a house of worship erected next year. The first priest was Father George Keller. Father J. B. M. Genin was stationed here in 1873, and has since remained, except about eighteen months spent among the Indians. The society now claims a membership of 1,800, and their church property is estimated at \$12,000. A parochial school was established in January, 1881, with 200 pupils.

**ST. PAUL'S GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH**, was organized on the 11th of May, 1872, with thirty members, under the pastoral efforts of Rev. Johannes Lueder. A church was erected in the summer of 1873. The society has no pastor at present. William the First, Emperor of Germany, sent this church a cannon taken in the Franco-German war, in December 1873, which was on exhibition in the City of Duluth for some time, then sent to New York and recast into a bell, which now hangs in the cupola of the church.

**NORWEGIAN DANISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN.**—This society was organized in 1870, with ten members, and a church built in 1872, which was blown down about three years later, after which they were without a house of worship until the purchase of their present edifice about a year afterward.

**SWEDISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN.**—This church was organized by Rev. Mr. Cederstam in 1869, and held public service for a time in the school-house. Their church edifice was erected in the summer of 1870, at an estimated cost of \$2,800.

**THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** was organized in November, 1869, by Rev. H. Webb. They worshiped for a time in a schoolhouse and elsewhere, until the erection of their present church edifice. The following pastors have since officiated: Revs. Henry J. Curtis, William McKuley, J. O. Rich, H. S. Hill, and L. H. Shumate. The present membership is fifty-eight.

**THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** was organized August 27th, 1870, with twelve members, and supplied with preaching by Rev. J. E. Wood, a





missionary of that denomination. Rev. J. L. A. Fish became pastor in June, 1872, and the following year a house of worship was erected, costing about \$4,000.

RICE POINT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was organized in the spring of 1873, with five members. Mr. E. F. Ely was the first Elder, and Rev. J. A. Lowry was chosen Pastor, and still remains. A house of worship was erected in the summer of 1873, at a cost of \$2,200.

#### SOCIETIES.

PALESTINE LODGE No. 79, A. F. and A. M., was organized, U. D., on the 10th of April, 1869, and chartered June 12th, 1870. The first officers were: Joshua B. Culver, W. M.; James D. Ray, S. W.; Franklin W. Ely, J. W.; Albert N. Scip, Sec.; John F. McLaren, Jr. Treas.; Walter Van Brunt, S. D.; George G. Barnum, J. D.; Herman Oswald, S. S.; Clinton Markell, Tyler.

Masonry is further represented by Key Stone Chapter No. 20, and Duluth Council, No. 6. The first meets twice a month, and the second monthly.

SHERWOOD LODGE, I. O. of O. F., was organized on the 25th of August, 1870, with five charter members. The following were the first officers: T. H. Pressnell, N. G.; David Geiger, V. G.; P. M. Trudell, Secretary; Herman Oswald, Treasurer. This lodge meets every Friday evening.

SUPERIOR LODGE, No. 10, A. O. U. W., was organized on the 3d of April, 1876, with twenty members. Its first officers were: O. J. Johnson, P. M. W.; T. H. Pressnell, M. W.; C. F. Johnson, F.; Edward Ingals, O.; Frank Burk, R.; W. H. Smith, F.; J. B. Scovill, R. This lodge meets every Tuesday evening, and has eighty members.

DULUTH LODGE No. 58, was organized on the 25th of July, 1878, with sixteen charter members. The first officers were: R. Wainwright, P. M. W.; George La Vaque, M. W.; H. Buywater, F.; F. B. Smith, O.; L. A. Marvin, R.; J. C. Hunter, R. This lodge meets semi-monthly, and has twenty-nine members.

ZENITH CITY LODGE, I. O. G. T., was organized in October, 1876, with fifteen members. The membership is now sixty-nine, and meetings are held weekly.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—A Hose Company was organized in 1870, and an engine purchased by the city. A fully organized Fire Department was formed in 1873, which was substituted by a board of Fire Marshals in 1877, using the equipage of the old organization.

The school interest has kept pace with other matters, and in addition to the Ward schools, the High School of Duluth has been duly enrolled by the State High School Board, and on July 1st, 1881, the contract was awarded for the erection of the buildings.

The first newspaper here was the "Minnesotian," published by Dr. Thomas Foster, the initial number dating April 24th, 1869. For the want of a better place, a stable was first used as sanetum and composing room. In August 1872, Thomas H. Pressnell leased the office, and continued the publication until June, 1875, being assisted a portion of the time by Judge E. F. Parker. At the date last mentioned, the "Herald" was purchased by M. C. Russell and T. H. Pressnell, who enlarged it to a nine column folio, continuing its publication till August, 1875, when Mr. Russell withdrew, and Mr. Pressnell continued it alone until September, when he was appointed Receiver in the Land Office at Duluth, and sold to E. H. Foster, who consolidated it with the "Minnesotian."

In May, 1870, the "Tribune" was established by R. C. Mitchell, and during a portion of 1872, and '73, he published a daily, which was suspended during the hard times, but is now resumed. Other newspaper efforts either resulted in failure, or merged into the "Tribune," which still continues under Mr. Mitchell's management.

The "Lake Superior News" was started in 1878, by W. S. Woodbridge, who still continues its publication.

It is impossible in this volume to note all the points of local or general interest, or indulge in a detailed narration of events connected with the varying fortunes and present attainments of the city. Enough is given to show the spirit of enterprise to which its prosperity is due, and which it is believed points to a future greatness far in advance of the anticipations of its original founders.

ST. PAUL AND DULUTH RAILROAD.—The history of this company dates back to the year 1857, when a charter, dating May 23d, was granted to the Nebraska and Lake Superior Railroad Company, Edmund Rice and Franklin Steele being among the incorporators. No work was done under this charter, and on the 8th of March, 1861, the charter was altered by an amendment to the former legislative act, changing the title to the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company. The first charter contemplated routes, the main line of which should extend from the west end of



Lake Superior to the Nebraska line, with a branch line from some point on the Mississippi river to Tayler's Falls. The new charter anticipated a line from the west end of Lake Superior to some point on the Mississippi river, with the right to extend to the Minnesota river; and a branch line to the navigable waters of the St. Croix, the main line to be built first. The charter required the Company to survey and locate the road within one year, to grade at least twenty miles within two years, and to complete the main line within five years. In July, 1877, the title was changed to the present, St. Paul and Duluth Railroad Company.

Work on this line was begun at St. Paul in 1867, and two years later at Duluth. In 1869 or '70 the main line was completed and has since been in operation. The Company also own and operate several branch lines, and are constantly adding to their lines and equipment.

The distance by rail from St. Paul to Duluth is one hundred and fifty-five miles, most of which is through a region unsettled before the building of the road. Since then, several large, and many average size farms have been opened, with satisfactory results. The Edgerton Farm, and Mah-towa Stock Farm, have demonstrated the profits of farming on a large scale, and have inspired others with faith to engage in agricultural pursuits along this line of road.

The provisions of the land grants of the United States and State of Minnesota, gave to this Company nearly one million seven hundred thousand acres of land, of which about five hundred thousand are covered with white pine timber.

The offices of the Company are at St. Paul, as are also their main shops, round-house, etc. They have an engine house and repair shops at Rice's Point, one mile south of Duluth, and own the depot at Duluth, which is also used by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. The general offices in St. Paul are at the corner of Fourth and Wacouta streets, and shops, etc., at foot of Fourth street. The present officers are: James Smith, Jr., President; W. H. Rhawn, Vice President; E. Q. Sewall, General Superintendent; P. S. Harris, Secretary and Treasurer; F. S. Hsley, Auditor; A. M. Eddy, General Freight and Ticket Agent; and W. D. Kelly, Road Master.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

HERMAN BURR is a native of Germany. In 1852, he came to America, located in Detroit,

Michigan, and resided four years. Then, after living two years at Duluth, he removed to Ontonagon county, Michigan, remaining until 1866. In the latter year he went to Lake Vermillion, and was employed in the mines until coming to Superior City. In 1870, he returned to Duluth, and opened the Lake Superior Meat Market, which business he still continues, supplying many of the boats at the head of the lake, besides a large city trade.

CARL BERKELMANN was born in 1849, in Germany. He came to America in 1864, residing for six years in New York. Then coming to Duluth, for five years he was employed in a grocery store. In 1875, Mr. Berkelmann moved to Bismarck, and remained four years. Returning to Duluth, he has since been engaged in the furniture business.

GEORGE BERKELMANN was born on the 16th of September, 1844, in Germany. He came to America, arriving in New York in July, 1861. Three years later he came to Minnesota and was employed in the coal mines on the upper Cottonwood, and also participated in the explorations of Walnut Grove. On the 15th of December, 1865, Mr. Berkelmann came to Duluth and was in the employ of the Minnesota Gold Mining Company, working for some time at Lake Vermillion. In 1868, he and three friends cut forty miles of the Duluth and Vermillion road, and also assisted in the building of the Duluth and Oneota county road. Then, after another exploring tour down the North Shore with Prof. R. M. Eames and H. Mayhew, he was employed as axman and later as commissary of the Engineer corps on the northern division of St. Paul and Duluth railroad. For two years Mr. Berkelmann was Town Clerk, and in 1870, acted as policeman, then as chief of police, filling the latter office under the first three Mayors of Duluth. From 1873, to '77, he served as County Sheriff and since as County Auditor.

ALBERT BLOCK is a native of Germany. He came to America in 1873, spent a few months at Boston, Massachusetts, and then came directly to Duluth. For about three years, he was engaged in different occupations; then, having learned the baker's trade in the old country, he opened a bakery, and has since followed that business, his brother going in as partner a short time ago.

ALEXANDER CRAWFORD, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, was born on the 22d of January, 1837. He learned the machinist's trade in his native land, came to America in 1855, and located in Detroit, Michigan, where he was employed at his trade





during the first winter, after which, for twenty-one years, he was employed as engineer on the lake steamers. In 1880, he removed to Duluth, and has since been engineer at Elevator B, in this city.

WILLIAM CURTIS was born in 1855, in England. He came to America when a child, living in Chicago until coming to Duluth in 1871. Mr. Curtis is now fireman of Elevator B, of this place.

ALBERT S. CHASE is Station Agent at this place for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, a position which he has held since the completion of the road to this point.

FRANK E. CULVER, son of J. B. Culver, who is one of the early settlers of this city, occupies a position with the Northern Pacific Company.

E. J. CROSSETT is a native of Vermont. In 1865, he moved to Watertown, Wisconsin, remaining but a short time, after which he entered the employ of the United States Express Company, and for a few months was messenger between St. Paul, Minnesota; and La Crosse, Wisconsin, then between St. Paul and Prairie du Chien for eight years, and finally, between St. Paul and Duluth until April, 1879. Since the latter date Mr. Crossett has been Agent at Duluth.

HENRY A. CAMPBELL, a native of Nova Scotia, was born in 1850. At the age of nineteen years he removed to Reading, Massachusetts, remaining for one year in the boot and shoe business, and then came to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The two years following he was employed on the Northern Pacific Railroad, going from place to place as the road advanced, and keeping a small stock of boots and shoes. Then, until April, 1880, he was engaged in the general merchandise business at Brainerd. In the latter year he came to this place, where in connection with boots and shoes he keeps a line of dry goods, hats, caps, clothing, &c., being a member of the firm of Campbell & Smith. Their increasing business obliged them to enlarge their store, and they are now having a heavy trade.

THOMAS CULLYFORD, a native of England, was born in 1844. Most of his life being spent at hotels, he has become familiar with the business, and in July, 1879, came to Duluth and rented the Clark House. This house was built by the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company, and opened to the public in 1871, Scott & Hull being proprietors until 1876; then the former retired, and the latter continued the business alone for three years. In the mean time the house had

passed into the hands of C. H. Clark and others, of Philadelphia, who still own it. The Clark House is a three-story frame building with office, parlors, reception rooms, dining room, &c. on the first floor, and sixty-five guest-rooms above.

JOHN R. CAREY was born in Maine on the 3d of March, 1830. On the 12th of April, 1853, he came to Minnesota with a New England colony; resided in St. Paul two years, and came to Superior City, Wisconsin, on the 2d of June, where he was engaged in the boot and shoe business. He took a claim, and in October, 1855, voted for a Delegate to Congress, it being the first election ever held in the county. In October, 1857, he removed to Oneota, and assisted in the entry and settlement of that town. Mr. Carey was elected Judge of Probate in October, 1859, and re-elected for five successive terms; was appointed United States Commissioner for the district of Minnesota in 1862, by Hon. R. R. Nelson. In 1869, he was elected Clerk of the District Court, re-elected three terms, and has also held the office of City Justice for two years.

J. E. COOLEY, of the firm of Cooley, La Vaque & Co., is a native of New York State. He came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1868, where, for five years, he was engaged in the lumber business. Then, in 1873, he came to Duluth, and as a member of the above firm has carried on an extensive fishery business, supplying markets all over the Northwest; the catch amounts to about twenty thousand pounds per week.

PETER DEAN was born in 1828, in New York City. He learned and followed the trade of a carpenter for several years, and in 1848, came to the Bruce copper mines at Lake Huron. Two years later, he removed to Ontonagon, Michigan, and was engaged for five years at his trade. Thence, to Superior City until 1858, when he returned for two years to Ontonagon, and in 1860, went to Houghton, Michigan, clerking in a mercantile establishment for seven years, and two years in business for himself. Then coming to Duluth he was one of the first to start in the mercantile business, and is now one of the leading merchants of the city. Has been Mayor of the city, and in 1880, was President of the Village Council.

JOHN DUNPHY, a native of Ireland, was born in December, 1814. When quite young he went to the West Indies, where, for three years, he was engaged as book-keeper, and for four years had charge of a plantation. Then coming to Canada,



he was employed on a farm four years, thence to Cleveland, Ohio, engaging in the manufacturing business, and afterwards in the same business in Chicago. After an engagement of four years in the mining regions of Michigan, he came to Duluth in 1856. Here he purchased the farm which he still owns; was elected Register of Deeds, and for two years was clerking in a real estate office. The year 1862 finds him at Twin Lakes, Carleton county, in the hotel business, and also keeping the Post-office. Mr. Dunphy returned to Duluth in 1874, and in 1876, was elected Judge of Probate; served two years, and in 1880, was re-elected, and still holds the office. On the 20th of June, 1854, he was married to Miss Mary A. Ready. Their children are, James V., John T., Mary A., Catharine, Julia, Angela, and Carroll P.

HENRY A. DAVIS, a millwright by trade, is a native of New York State. He has been four years in Minnesota, one year at Stillwater and three at Duluth. Mr. Davis has a fine farm at New York Mills, about sixty miles from Brainerd, on the Northern Pacific Railroad.

JASPER S. DANIELS is also a native of New York State. He served four years in the army, two and half in the Second Wisconsin Infantry, and the balance of the time as First Lieutenant in the First Wisconsin Artillery. Was for two years on an exploring expedition in Canada, and in 1869, came to Duluth and was for several years employed at various occupations. Since June, 1880, Mr. Daniels has been Village Marshal, with three assistants on the police force.

FRANK W. EATON was born in New Hampshire, in 1849. Was employed on farms in his native State until coming to the St. Croix Valley, Minnesota, in 1868, where he was for two years engaged in the lumber business. In 1870, he came to Duluth, and has since been in the real estate business and dealing in pine lands. Since the organization of the village, Mr. Eaton has filled the position of Recorder.

JAMES EDWARDS was born in Wales in 1823. He came with his parents to America in 1831, and located in Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in the mines. In 1850, he removed to Ontonagon, Michigan, and remained for several years. The years 1853-54 were spent in Superior City, having taken land about nine miles south of that place. In 1857, he started a general store at Superior City, which he continued until 1862; then, for about fourteen months, was

employed by the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad Company in contracting and building. He was next engaged on a steamboat running between Superior and Duluth, and about the head of the lake, but has been out of business for the last few years.

WILLIAM FRASER entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in 1875, as receiving clerk, and since May, 1880, has been cashier at this point.

JOHN FLYNN, a native of Buffalo, New York, was born in 1849. He was employed as clerk on the lake steamers for many years. In the spring of 1880, he came to Duluth as agent for the Lake Michigan and Lake Superior Transportation Company. The officers of this company are: S. F. Leopold, President; A. T. Speneer, Vice President; C. F. A. Speneer, Secretary and Treasurer; and Joseph Austrian, General Manager. Mr. Flynn is also agent for the Lake Superior and South Shore line.

EDWARD FIEBIGER, a native of Germany, came to America in 1867. Was one year in Watertown, Wisconsin, and five years in Shakopee, Minnesota; in both places being engaged at blacksmith work. In 1873, he came to Duluth and started a blacksmith shop, and six years later, added a full line of stoves and hardware.

JAMES H. FLYNT, a native of Franklin, New York, came to Superior City in 1856, where he engaged in surveying until 1861; then enlisted in the Fifteenth Iowa Infantry and served four years. Since 1865, he has been engaged in the jewelry business; two years in Albany, New York; two years at Shelby, Ohio; and in South Bend, Indiana, until 1872, since which time he has conducted a jewelry store at this place.

M. FINK, a native of Germany, came to America in 1867, locating in Minnesota. He first lived two years at Clmska, then one year at St. Paul, and six at Stillwater. Came to Duluth in 1876, rented the brewery, and has since been engaged in the manufacture of beer.

JAMES FERGUSON is a native of Prince Edward's Island. He came to Michigan in 1871, and was for ten years employed on the Flint and Marquette Railroad. In May, 1881, he came to Duluth and engaged in the grocery business, being in partnership with William A. Hicken.

CHARLES HUNMAN GRAVES, a man well known throughout northern and central Minnesota, is a





native of Springfield, Massachusetts, where his birth occurred in the year 1839. He is the son of Rev. H. A. Graves, a Baptist clergyman, and editor of the "Christian Watchman and Reflector," of Boston. Mr. Graves received a common school education in Boston, afterward clerking in a dry goods store until May, 1861, when he enlisted at West Cambridge, in a volunteer company raised by Captain Ingalls, which in June was assigned to the Fortieth Regiment of New York Volunteer Infantry, and ordered to Washington. After serving as a private and non-commissioned officer till November, 1861, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant as the result of a competitive examination of all the non-commissioned officers in the Regiment. He participated in the battles of Bull Run, Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Seven Oaks, and in June, 1862, was detailed as Ordnance Officer and Aid-de-Camp on General Kearney's Staff. He also served as Staff Officer under Generals Stoneman, Birney, Graham, and Terry. He was promoted to First Lieutenant, and Captain in his Regiment, then to Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General, and soon after was raised to the rank of Major "for gallant services in the attack on Fort Fisher, North Carolina." He was also brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, and Colonel, and in 1865, appointed Lieutenant of Infantry in the Regular army, and the following year promoted to Captain, serving as Inspector-General of the department of Dakota, and in other important positions. During his service in the army of the Potomac, he was severely wounded at the battle of Gettysburg. After long and active service, he resigned his commission in December, 1870, and has since been a resident of Duluth. As a citizen, his life has been no less active than as a soldier. He was a member of the State Senate from 1873 to 1876 inclusive, for several years a member of the Republican State Central Committee, and Chairman of the Republican Congressional Convention of the Third district in 1880. For several years he has been one of the Directors of the St. Paul and Duluth railroad, and is now senior member of the firm of C. H. Graves & Co., the leading wholesale house of Duluth; is also President of the Union Improvement and Elevator Company, and Vice-President of the Lake Superior Elevator Company; Secretary of the Duluth Iron Company, and a member of the Common Council of Duluth.

P. B. GAYLORD is a native of Ohio. He was for a time engaged in the town of Jefferson, as a pho-

tographer. Then, in 1869, came to Duluth, where he is now in the same business.

J. B. M. GENIN was born near Lyons, in the southeastern part of France, on the 4th of November, 1839. He graduated at the commercial College of Bour-gen-Bresse. In 1860, he came to Canada, and for four years was a teacher at the St. Joseph College, Ottawa, being ordained priest in 1863. His first charge was a mission in the northern part of Canada, remaining until 1865. Then for a year he had charge of a mission between the McKenzie river and the Arctic Ocean. In 1866, he was sent to Europe for a few months on business in connection with the missions, and on his return went among the Sioux Indians. In 1867, he built a house at Holy Cross, on the Red river, opposite the mouth of Wild Rice river, and the following year was appointed Postmaster at that point. This was the war path of the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, and near the graves of many victims of the Sioux massacre of 1862. His object in locating at this point was to make an effort to check the depredations of the Indians on the whites, and was also the means of a settlement in that region. At his instigation a meeting was held at Fort Abercrombie on the 15th of August, 1870, before General Hunt, the officer of the fort, when a treaty was framed, the Chippewa and Sioux tribes agreeing to no more molest the whites, and also to live friendly with each other. In 1868, a cross was erected by Father Genin at that point; he also built a church there. In 1873, he took charge of a church at Duluth, and has since resided in this place.

WILLIAM A. HICKEN is a native of Prince Edward's Island, and resided there until he came to Duluth. Since May, 1881, he has been in the grocery business in partnership with James Ferguson.

FRANKLIN P. HOPKINS was born in Prattsburg, New York, in 1820. When a child he came with his parents to Michigan; remained on a farm till 1850, then, for three years, was engaged in carpentering, and afterwards, until 1871, was in the lumber and mill business in Vermontville. In the latter year he came to Duluth, purchased a farm on section twelve, town of Herman, a short distance from Duluth, and was engaged in farming and also worked at his trade. Since February, 1880, he has been employed in elevator B, at the carpenter and millwright trade.

OTTO C. HARTMAN was born in Shakopee, Min-



nesota, in 1860. When he was ten years old his parents came to Duluth, and in 1873, he went into the employ of the Northwestern Telegraph Company. Three years later he accepted the position of manager for the company at Duluth. In July, 1881, the office passed into the hands of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and Mr. Hartman occupies the same position under the new management.

WILLIAM J. HAMBLY is a native of England, and was born on the 9th of March, 1845. He came to America in 1867, and for two years was engaged in teaching school at Eagle river, Michigan. Then for eighteen months he taught school in this place, and afterward removed to Hancock, Michigan, where he was employed as an accountant; thence to Silver Island, Ontario, where he had charge of a silver stamp mill for eighteen months. In 1878, he came again to Duluth and has since been employed as accountant for different parties. Miss Rosina Thomas became his wife on the 21st of December, 1865. Of six children born, four are living; Bessie, John S., Albert W., and Oliver.

NEHEMIAH HULETT was born in Hampton, Washington county, New York, on the 30th of January, 1823. He was reared on a farm and received an academic education. In September, 1856, he came to Winona county, Minnesota, and a few months later to Faribault, remaining until May, 1857; thence to Duluth, where he spent some time in exploring the country, and finally took a claim near Spirit Lake, about eight miles south of Duluth, where he resided two years. He then returned to the east and spent a greater portion of the time till 1864, in his native State. He was for a year and a half in Oneota, after which, until 1867, he divided his time between this section of the country and the old homestead in New York. In the fall of 1867, Mr. Hulett was elected Treasurer of St. Louis county, and held the position eight years; since which he has been engaged in farming.

MATTHIAS HAUG is a native of Germany, and came to America in 1861. The first five years of his residence in this country he spent in the copper mines of Michigan, then came to Duluth, remained a short time, and visited Vermillion, remaining six months. He then returned to Duluth, where he has been engaged in different occupations; first in a saw mill, then in the fishing business four or five years, and is at present in a

confectionery, bakery, and cigar store, with a billiard hall attached.

CHRIST HAUG is a native of Germany, and came to America in 1864. He first located in the town of Rockland, Ontonagon county, Michigan, where he was in the jewelry business for about eleven years; thence to Houghton, same State, remaining until 1879. He came to Duluth in the latter year, and is engaged in the watchmaking and jewelry business.

CHANCY JOSLIN, proprietor of the Windsor House, was born in March, 1827, in Wayne county, Michigan. He remained on the farm until accepting the position of conductor on the Michigan Central Railroad, remaining twenty-six years. On leaving the Company, Mr. Joslin came to Minnesota, was employed on the Northern Pacific Railroad one year; then took charge of the Eating House at Island Lake, where he remained until coming to Duluth and purchasing the Windsor House on the 25th of June, 1881. The house is a three story frame structure, with thirty rooms; was built by William Lynn and opened to the public in April, 1880.

CHARLES F. JOHNSON, a native of Sweden, was born in 1843. His parents came to America in 1853, and two years afterward settled in St. Paul, where our subject was engaged in the book and stationery business. For two years he served in the Ninth New York Volunteer Infantry. In 1869, he came to Duluth, and the following year, was elected City Comptroller, which office he resigned in 1875, to take that of Deputy Collector of Customs, which latter position he still holds. He also has a book and stationery store, and job printing and bindery house. In April, 1869, he was married to Minnie Sherry of Chicago. The result of this union has been two children; Frederick and Emma.

JOSEPH E. KNOWLTON was born on the 15th of April, 1835, in Maine. In 1868, he came to Minnesota, remained one year in Minneapolis and came to Duluth, where for two years he was engaged in contracting dock work. In 1871, Mr. Knowlton, in partnership with a Mr. Pratt, opened a livery stable, running the first bus in Duluth. In 1876, Moses O'Brien entered the firm, and after the death of Mr. Pratt in May, 1880, the firm name was changed to O'Brien and Knowlton. They have a fine stable on Superior Street, 40x115 feet, and two and a half stories high; own about twenty horses, and run a line of buses and hacks to the





boats and trains. In 1876-77, Mr. Knowlton was Receiver in the Land Office, and in April, 1881, received an appointment from the Governor of the State as Surveyor General of logs and lumber for the Fifth district.

HOWARD C. KENDALL is a native of Monticello, Indiana. In 1866, he entered the employ of the Pan Handle Railroad Company as operator, at Logansport, Indiana, remaining three years; thence to Des Moines, Iowa, engaged on the Rock Island road, one year; with the Hannibal and St. Joe Company nine months, and returned to the Pan Handle road; then with the St. Paul and Pacific road till 1874. In the latter year he came to Duluth as a supply in the ticket office, till 1880, since which time he has been the regular ticket Agent for the Northern Pacific, and St. Paul and Duluth Companies.

E. F. KRELWITZ is a native of Germany, and came to America in 1849. He first lived one winter in Wisconsin, then removed to Mackinaw, Michigan, where he remained till 1853; thence to the copper mines of Lake Superior, remaining sixteen years; and came to Duluth and engaged in the manufacture of soda water one year. From 1870 to 1880, Mr. Krelwitz was in the Marquette iron and copper mines, after which he came again to Duluth, and has since been in the grocery business.

FREDERICK KRUSCHKE is a native of Germany. He came to America, locating in Utica, New York, in 1853; remained but a few months and came to Dodge county, Minnesota, where, for nine years he was engaged in carpentering and building; thence to Appleton, Wisconsin, ten years, in the furniture business, after which, until 1869, he was in Owatonna, Minnesota, in the same business. In the latter year he came to Duluth, remained a year and a half, and returned to Appleton, Wisconsin, remaining a few years. Since his return to Duluth, he has been engaged in the furniture business.

ALLEN M. LONGSTREET was born in 1834, in Brooklyn, New York. When he was quite young, his parents removed to Connecticut, where our subject remained till twenty years of age. He then removed to Providence, Rhode Island, and for four years was engaged in the woolen mills of that place. He came west and enlisted in the army in 1861, serving till the close of the war. Going to Indiana, he was employed in the woolen mills two years, after which, until 1872, he was in

the same business in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Longstreet came to Duluth in the latter year and has since been engaged in the hotel business. He is the present proprietor of the Bay View House, a three-story frame structure, pleasantly located on Superior street, facing the Lake, and containing about fifty rooms.

JAMES R. LEVINS was born in June 1840, in New York City, where he learned the hatters' trade. In 1862, he removed to Ontonagon, Michigan, remained in the mining districts three years and returned to his native place. In 1868, he went again to Ontonagon, Michigan, and the following year, to Duluth. For two years since coming here, Mr. Levins was engaged in fishing, and has since been in the employ of the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad Company, first as receiving clerk, and since, as check clerk.

S. LUNDBERG is a native of Sweden and came to America in 1864. He was three years in St. Paul, then in Minneapolis till coming to Duluth in 1871; has since made this his home, and is at present in a billiard house and bowling alley, on Lake avenue.

JOSEPH LLOYD is a native of England, and came to Canada in 1854. For ten years he was employed on the Great Western Railroad, and in 1864, went to Houghton, Michigan, where he was engaged in the manufacture of pop and other bottled goods. After a twelve years residence in the latter place, he removed to Danse, same State, remaining till May, 1880; then came to Duluth and has since been engaged in the same business on Lake avenue.

JOHN H. LA VAQUE is a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, born on the 4th of March, 1845. When he was an infant, his parents removed to Stevens Point in the same State, where our subject resided during his youth. At the age of sixteen years, he came to St. Cloud, Minnesota, learned painting and after three years, removed to St. Paul, where he worked at his trade. For two years he served in the war, one year in the Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and one in the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. In 1870, he came to Duluth and has since been engaged at No. 18 West Superior street, keeping a line of paints, oils, varnishes, wall-paper, window-shades, curtain fixtures, chromos, engravings, picture-frames, etc. Mr. La Vaque carries a stock of from \$8,000 to \$10,000 and his business in the year of 1880, amounted to \$40,000.



WILLIAM McLAREN was born in Toronto, Canada, in the year 1858. For several years, previous to coming to Duluth he was engaged in steam-boating. He came here in 1879, was one year engaged in the saw-mills, and is now employed at elevator B.

THEODORE MACY, a native of Livingston county, New York, was born on the 24th of September, 1833. When quite young, he was employed in a flouring mill for seven years, then engaged in contracting until 1860; when he entered the employ of the Marquette and Ontonagon Railroad Company, remaining eleven years, ten of which he was conductor. In 1871, Mr. Macy came to Duluth and is at present assistant Yard-master for the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad Company.

JAMES S. MATTOCKS was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on the 11th of December, 1861. He came to Duluth in 1878, and has since been engaged as fireman in elevator A.

A. M. MILLER was born in Denmark in 1839. At the age of twenty years, he came to America, and for several years was in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railroad Company. In 1870, Mr. Miller came to Duluth, where he is engaged in the lumber business. He also owns a lumber, lath, and shingle mill in Thompson, Carleton county, which has a daily capacity of fifty thousand feet in ten hours. He also keeps a stock of lumber at Rice's Point.

ALEXANDER M. MORRISON is a native of Scotland, born in 1850. At the age of twenty-three, he came to America and directly to Duluth. For one year he was employed as clerk in a hardware store, then two years in a grocery store. In 1876, he engaged in business on his own account; has since had several partners, his present one, Mr. McGregor, having purchased his interest in June, 1881. They carry a stock of about \$7,000, and their business, in 1880, amounted to \$40,000.

ALLEN J. MILLER, a native of Germany, was born in 1841. When he was an infant, his parents came to America, lived for four years in St. Louis, Missouri; thence to Wisconsin, remaining four years; after which, until 1872, our subject was in the grocery business in Chicago. In the latter year, he came to Duluth, was employed one year as a clerk, and in 1873, in company with Calvin P. Bailey, engaged in the grocery business, firm name of A. J. Miller & Co. They carry a stock of \$10,000, and their business in 1880, amounted to \$47,000.

H. E. McDANIELS is a native of Indiana. He came to Duluth in 1869, and was employed two years at the carpenter trade, then two years in the furniture business. In 1873, he engaged in the latter business on his own account, both manufacturing and selling furniture.

JOHN R. MEINING is a native of Hamilton, Canada, born in 1856. In 1869, he came to Duluth and learned the tinner's trade, at which he worked eight years. He then removed to Fargo, remaining three years, and in the spring of 1880, returned to this place where he has since been in the hardware business, keeping stoves, tin and hardware.

LON MERRITT dates his birth in 1844, at Chautauqua county, New York. In 1857, the family came to this county, located at Oneota, being among the first to settle in the county. In 1871, our subject, in company with his brother Alfred, built a schooner of seventy-two tons burden, and the following year another; which are the only vessels ever built at the head of the lake. Mr. Merritt, for several years past, has been exploring the country, and dealing in real estate and pine lands. He resides in Oneota, but his office is at Duluth. The firm name is Eaton and Merritt.

EDWIN P. MARTIN was born in Culpepper county, Virginia, on the 8th of March, 1819. At the age of seventeen, he entered the University of that State, remained one year, and entered the Columbia College at Washington; after which he was in the Treasury Department, and later in the mercantile business in the same place. Returning to the University at Virginia, he graduated in 1841, and came west, locating at Newburg, Indiana; was general manager for the contractors of the Wabash and Erie canal, and two years later, removed to Park county, where he was engaged in general merchandise for a year and a half; and thence to Attica, in the drug business till 1860. In the latter year he removed to Crawford county, Illinois; was Clerk of the Courts two years, and in 1862, enlisted in the Fifth Illinois Cavalry. Soon after, he was appointed Quartermaster's clerk, and on the 26th of December, 1862, promoted to Adjutant of the Regiment. In April, of the following year, he resigned, returned to Crawford county, Illinois, and was elected Provost Marshal of that county. On the 20th of September, 1864, he went to Vicksburg, enlisted as a private in his old regiment, was at once promoted to Second Lieutenant, and served till the surren-





der of Lee. Returning then to Illinois, he was engaged in farming till 1870, when he removed to Rawlins, the county seat of Carbon county, Wyoming Territory, and remained three years. While there, was elected Judge of Probate, Justice of the Peace, and County Treasurer. In 1873, Mr. Martin came to Duluth and for two years was engaged in the grocery business, and was elected Village Justice, which position he still holds. On the 9th of February, 1850, Miss Amanda Elkins became his wife. Their children are, Thomas V., Laura, and Frank.

JOSEPH MANNHEIM was born in Faribault, Steele county, Minnesota, on the 1st of January, 1859. When he was ten years old, his parents came to Duluth, and at the age of sixteen he was engaged as clerk in a hotel. In 1880, Mr. Mannheim was elected to the office of Register of Deeds of St. Louis county, and still holds the position. On the 25th of December, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth McKinnon. Their union has been blessed with two children; Margaret F., and Joseph E.

FRANK McWHORTER is a native of Buffalo, New York. He came to Duluth in 1869, by way of the Lakes, bringing with him a stock of general merchandise, and started in business near where the canal now is. A few months later he removed to Superior street, remained five years, and returned to his native place. In 1878, he again came to Duluth and has since made it his home.

JOHN McLEAN is a native of Canada, and came to the United States in 1866. He remained a short time in Chicago, thence to Marquette, where he worked at his trade (carpentering) until 1869. He then came to Duluth and has since been engaged in fishing; the company doing a business of \$50,000 a year.

THOMAS F. MCGOWAN is a native of Buffalo, New York. Arriving at maturity, he was for fourteen years lumber inspector in his native place. From 1872 to 1878, Mr. McGowan was trading on the Lake between Duluth and Portage, after which he settled in Duluth and has since been engaged in the wine, liquor, and cigar business.

SAMUEL O. McQUADE was born in 1829, in Pennsylvania. At the age of sixteen, he removed to Michigan, learned the carpenter trade and remained until twenty-three years old. In 1852, he came to Superior City, explored in the copper mines four years, in the meantime, making a

claim on French river, twelve miles north of Duluth, where he resided till 1858. The following year he went to Portage Lake, Michigan, and was engaged at his trade till 1861. He then enlisted in the Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, was commissioned First Lieutenant, and in 1864, mustered out at Portage Lake, where he was employed at his trade till 1870. He then came to Duluth, and in company with O. K. Patterson, was for five years engaged in the manufacture of sash, and doors, and since at the carpenter trade. Since 1876, Mr. McQuade has been Sheriff of this county; was for three years Chairman of the board of County Commissioners, and also village Alderman.

MOSES O'BRIEN is a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, born in 1837. When sixteen years of age, he, in company with his uncle, made a survey of the ship channel across the Isthmus of Panama, spending something over two years on the trip, visiting East and West Indies and Central America. On his return he was for a time in West Virginia, then in California, and in various business interests has traveled over quite a portion of the United States. He came to Duluth in 1870, and engaged in the livery business, which he has since followed. In 1876, he became a partner with Pratt and Knowlton, and on the death of the former, in 1880, the firm name was changed to O'Brien & Knowlton.

CAMILLE POIRIER was born in March, 1838, in Canada. He learned the shoemaker trade in his native place and in 1864, came to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed as superintendent in a boot and shoe establishment for five years. Then coming to Duluth he has since been in the same business, having increased his stock from year to year until now he has a fine stock, and the leading establishment in the city.

MICHAEL PASTORET is a native of Germany, and came to America in 1856. He first lived in Wisconsin one year; then, in Chicago, Illinois, one year; then, at Eagle Harbor, Michigan, where he was engaged in the grocery and liquor business till 1869. In the latter year, he came to Duluth and has since been in the wholesale business of wines, liquors and cigars.

JOHN M. RICH was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1838. He is a machinist, and since coming to Duluth in 1872, has had the superintendency of putting in the foundations of elevator



No. 1, and elevator B., and is at present engaged in that of elevator C.

JOHN G. RAKOWSKY is a native of Germany. Coming to America in 1865, he came directly to Duluth, and has since been engaged in the grocery and provision business.

HON. OZORA P. STEARNS, Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District, was born at De Kalb, St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 13th of January, 1831, and at the age of two years removed with the family to Lake county, Ohio. In a family of ten children, Ozora was the youngest son. He early evinced a strong desire to obtain a liberal education, and to that end his youthful energies were directed, never swerving from this fixed purpose. Relying wholly upon his own resources, his progress was not rapid; but in 1858, the goal was reached, and he graduated with honors at the University of Michigan. During his protracted course he had visited several other States, once going to California, where he was mining, in 1853; engaging in various employments, always with the single purpose of completing his education. In 1860, he graduated in the Law department of the University of Michigan, and during the year, came to this State, and located at Rochester, where he arrived with but twenty cents in his pocket, and at once opened a law office. In the fall, he took part in the political campaign, in the interests of the Republican party, and the next fall was elected County Attorney of Olusted county.

In August, 1862, he entered the army, being commissioned First Lieutenant of Company F, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. In April, 1864, he was commissioned Colonel of the Thirtieth United States Infantry, (colored) which position he held till the close of the war. He was with the Army of the Potomac from the battle of the Wilderness until after the battle of Petersburg; then transferred to the Army of the James, and accompanied both Butler's and Terry's Fort Fisher expeditions. In January, 1866, he returned to Rochester and was elected to the office he resigned on entering the army. The following year he was appointed Register in Bankruptcy for the southern district of Minnesota, and in January, 1871, was elected United States Senator, vice Daniel S. Norton, deceased. In the spring of 1872, he removed to Duluth, which has since been his home. His present office was first received by appointment in the spring of 1874, and since the fall of that year, has been held by election. His

pleasant home in Duluth is shared by a family of interesting children, the fruits of his union with Miss Sarah Burger, of Detroit, Michigan, who he came his wife in February, 1863, and still share his fortunes.

EUGENE A. SYLVESTER, a native of New Market New Hampshire, was born in 1846. He came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1871, and for six years was with the Northern Pacific Railroad Company then came to Duluth, and until 1880 was in the employ of the United States Express Company, since which he has been in Elevator B.

ANDREW J. SAWYER was born at Lockport, Niagara county, New York, in 1834. Before coming to Duluth, he dealt in live stock (cattle and horses) in his native place. In 1879, he came here and has a line of warehouses on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, extending from Duluth to Sanburn, Dakota Territory, his office being located at this place. During the year 1880, he bought, on the line, nearly one million bushels of wheat.

THOMAS SEXTON, one of the early settlers of this region, was born in Ireland, in 1825. His family came to Canada when he was an infant, and in 1854, removed to Ontonagon county, Michigan, where our subject was engaged in the mines for one winter. Then coming to Superior City, Wisconsin, he was employed for a time in bridge building, and removed to Agate Bay, Minnesota, where he engaged in mining and fishing till the spring of 1881. He now makes Duluth his headquarters and is at present engaged as commissary with the surveying party on the proposed railroad route from Duluth to Winnipeg. Mr. Sexton still owns a homestead at Agate Bay.

J. B. SUTPHIN is a native of New Jersey. In the year of 1870, he came to Duluth, and has since been dealing in cattle and horses. In April, 1881, in connection with the latter business, and in company with W. Lampson, Mr. Sutphin purchased the Duluth city meat market. The business was established in 1868, by Samuel J. Dunning and afterward owned by J. P. Johnson, of whom our subject purchased.

OLOF STENSON, a native of Norway, came to America in 1872. Coming directly to Duluth, he was engaged a year at mason work and railroad-ing. Since 1873, Mr. Stenson has been in the grocery business.

PAUL SHARVY was born in Norway. In 1865, he came to America, and for two years, was employed as clerk in a grocery store at Chicago,





thence to La Crosse, Wisconsin, two years, in the same business. After living in St. Paul one year, Mr. Sharvy came to Duluth in 1870, and for four years was engaged in the grocery business; after which he was Sheriff two years. Since 1876, he has been engaged in the elevator.

BENJAMIN F. SMITH, a native of Haverhill, Massachusetts, was born on the 12th of June, 1850. He learned the machinist trade at Charlestown, in his native State, and was employed by the Boston and Maine Railroad Company for ten years, most of which time he run a locomotive. In 1874, he came to Minnesota and was engaged as clerk in the grocery store of Henry A. Campbell at Brainerd, until coming to Duluth, since which he has been a partner in the establishment.

WILLIAM W. SPALDING is a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and dates his birth on the 11th of July, 1820. At the age of twelve years, he commenced clerking in a mercantile house. In 1836, his parents came to Illinois, lived a short time in Bureau county, thence to La Salle county, where the subject of this sketch remained till 1841, when he engaged for four years in the lead mines of that State. He then came to the Lake Superior copper mines, where he was engaged until 1869. In March, 1848, Mr. Spalding discovered the ancient copper mines of Ontonagon county, about one hundred and sixty miles east of Duluth. In these old mines were found mining tools and every evidence of their having been worked thousands of years ago. Mr. Spalding was a member of the Buffalo Tract Town Site Company, which land was bought in 1854, and soon after surveyed; but not platted until 1869 or '70. In 1869, he came to Duluth, and has served the people as Alderman a number of years. He was for a long time President of the Agricultural Society; three years President of the Chamber of Commerce, and at the organization of the Board of Trade in the spring of 1881, became its Secretary. On the 27th of April, 1854, Miss E. Wilkinson became his wife. Their children are William M., and Jessie O.

GEORGE W. SHERWOOD is a native of Dutchess county, New York. When a young man, he removed to Buffalo and was five years engaged in the mercantile business, and three in the hack and livery business. He was Sheriff eleven years, and Police Constable during the same time. In 1869, he came to Duluth, and for three seasons run the yacht, J. C. Keens, around the head of the lake,

carrying freight and passengers. He has since been dealing in wines, liquors, and cigars.

ANSELL SMITH, deceased, was a native of Grafton, Windham county, Vermont, his birth dating the 13th of January, 1821. He received an academic education, and taught school from 1836 to 1842. In 1845, he removed to St. Charles, Illinois, where he published a paper a few years, and in 1850, came to Minnesota, and located at Taylor's Falls, Chisago county, remaining three years. After a residence of sixteen years at Franconia, in the same county, Mr. Smith accepted the position of Register in the United States Land Office at Duluth in 1869, holding the office until his death, on the 27th of June, 1877. Mr. Smith was quite prominent in local matters while a resident of Chisago county, and represented that district in the State Legislature during the years of 1863-64 and '66. He married Miss Adaline Kidder, of Fayetteville, Vermont, in 1845.

GEORGE M. SMITH, a son of John T. Smith, who is one of the early settlers of Superior City, Wisconsin, is a native of Jefferson, Wisconsin. His father was engaged in the mercantile business, and George was employed as clerk for several years. In 1869, he came to Duluth, returning to Superior City after a year's stay, and engaged for four years in a flour and feed store. In 1874, he again came to Duluth and has since been engaged in the same business. In January, 1880, the Northern Pacific Express Company established an office at Duluth, of which our subject has since been the Agent. In 1868, J. Cooke made his first visit to this region, and Mr. Smith was the one to escort him from Superior City to Duluth.

ALBERT N. SEIP was born at Newburg, Pennsylvania, on the 13th of January, 1840. He was educated at Easton High School and Lafayette College, and in 1861, joined the Union army, serving in the army of the Potomac as private, Lieutenant, and Captain of Cavalry, also as Lieutenant in the United States Signal Corps. At the close of the war Mr. Seip settled in Washington county, entered Columbia Law College as a student, graduated in 1867, and the same year was admitted to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. On the 3d of June, 1869, he came to Duluth, and on the 14th of the same month, opened, and for two months taught the first public school in Duluth; and under its new development, was appointed Superintendent of the schools, which office he held until 1871. He also, by the appointment of



Judge McKelvy, held the office of Court Commissioner for the county, County Attorney for Carlton county in 1872, and City Attorney of Duluth in the defense of several civil actions instituted of damages on account of the construction of a canal, grading of streets, etc. He has always taken a deep interest in public matters, being one of the founders of the St. Louis County Agricultural Society, for many years its Treasurer, and is now its President. He was for a number of years Secretary of the St. Louis River Dalles Company. He is interested in all educational and literary institutions, has been for many years corresponding Secretary of the public library of Duluth, and since 1877, Clerk of the board of Education. In 1872, Mr. Seip assisted in the organization of the Duluth Savings Bank, being its Vice-President till 1876, when he resigned. This is the only bank now at Duluth. In 1877, he was elected a member of the first Village Council, and two years later, County Attorney. Since 1877, he has been a member from the Eleventh Judicial District of the State Board of Equalization, having been commissioned by the Governor three different times. Mr. Seip also takes an active interest in social organizations, has served as Judge Advocate of the Grand Army of the Republic of Department Seven, Minnesota; also Commander of Sherbrook Post of Duluth, and was the first, and for many years held the position of Secretary of Palestine Lodge, No. 79, A. F. and A. M. Mr. Seip has invested largely in Duluth, made a number of improvements, and has many real estate interests in his care.

CHARLES SCHILLER is a native of Michigan, in which State he resided until coming to Duluth in 1880. He has since been engaged in the manufacture and sale of cigars in company with Edmund Vogtlin.

Z. D. SCOTT, a native of Michigan, removed to Minnesota, and for several years was employed in factories at Minneapolis. In April, 1880, he came to Duluth, where in company with D. E. Holston, he owns a planing mill, and a door, sash, and blind factory.

JOHN S. TAYLOR, a native of Scotland, was born in 1831, and came to Canada when a child. In 1850, he removed to Michigan, and four years later, engaged in the lumber business in West Bay City, at which he continued twenty-eight years, being one of the pioneer lumbermen of that place. In June, 1879, the subject of this sketch came to Du-

luth on a pleasure trip, and being favorably impressed with the locality soon returned, and in the fall of the same year built a saw mill at Rice's Point, with Messrs. Fish and Haupt as partners; the latter being non-residents. Mr. Taylor also rents the old Munger and Gray mill which is operated under the firm name of J. S. Taylor and sons.

GEORGE TAYLOR dates his birth on the 7th of February, 1836, in New Brunswick; and in early life worked at the mill-wright trade. The year 1869, was spent as carpenter on the Illinois Central Railroad, and in 1870, he came to Duluth and has since filled the position of engineer in elevator A.

HENRY TRUELSON, a native of Germany, came to America in 1866, and for three years was employed as book-keeper in northern Michigan. He came to Duluth in 1869, and started a general mercantile store with a stock of about \$200; has since very much increased the business, and at present occupies three adjoining stores.

WALTER VAN BRUNT, a native of Beloit, Wisconsin, was born in the year 1846. His parents removed to Faribault, Minnesota, when our subject was but nine years old; thence, in 1866, to St. Paul, where Walter was engaged in a hardware store two years, then returned to Faribault and remained one year. Since 1869, Mr. Van Brunt has been a resident of Duluth; the first four years were spent as clerk in a hardware store, then as book-keeper for Graves & Co. until January, 1880, since which time he has been a partner in the firm of Graves & Bostwick, general commission merchants. He is also Manager of the Duluth Telephone Company, and Treasurer of the Duluth Brick and Fill Company recently organized, the yard being located at Spirit Lake.

EDMUND VOGTLIN was born in the state of Michigan, which was his home until his removal to this place in 1879. The following year the firm of Schiller & Vogtlin was formed, and has since been continued.

CHARLES W. VANCE has for the past two years been agent for the St. Paul and Duluth, and also the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad company, at this place. Previous to coming here he was three years with the former company at St. Paul.

EDWARD V. WRIGHT, a native of Quebec, Canada, dates his birth the 8th of December, 1843. When young, he learned the harness-maker





trade and for several years conducted his father's business, then for six years carried on a shop of his own. He came to Duluth in about 1879, where he owns and conducts a harness-shop on Superior street.

VONLEY S. WILKINSON was born in 1835, in the state of Ohio, but in 1851, removed to Illinois, where for ten years he resided on a farm. Then enlisted in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, served four years, and returned to Bureau county. The year 1866, was spent in the County Treasurer's office, thence to Ontonagon county, Michigan, where he was employed as book-keeper for a mining company till 1869. Since the latter year, he has been a resident of Duluth and had charge of the mercantile store of W. W. Spalding.

SCARGALL WAKELIN was born in England in the year 1822, and came to America in 1852. After a residence of four years in Cleveland, Ohio, he came to Superior City, Wisconsin, and kept a boarding house for a year. In 1857, he, in company with his brother Edward, pre-empted the town site of Clifton, which had been laid out the year previous by another party, but abandoned soon after. Our subject resided there for seven or eight years and then returned to Superior City, where he remained till coming to Duluth in 1871. The following year, he opened a hotel which he still operates. The Wakelin House is a frame building containing forty rooms; with a fine stable in connection. Mr. Wakelin was united in marriage with Miss Mary Leighton, of England, in 1850.

LOUIS WEBER, a native of Germany, came to America in 1847, and for two years resided in Detroit, Michigan, thence to Ontonagon, where he was engaged in the copper mines until 1869. Then came to Duluth and started a bakery, which he now conducts, also owns a confectionery and ice cream restaurant on Superior Street.

WILLIAM WHITESIDE, a native of St. Louis, Mis-

souri, came to Duluth in 1854, and resided three years, doing business at Superior City. In 1858, he went to Houghton, Michigan, opened a photograph gallery, and also had business interests in Marquette, at which he continued until 1878. Then returned to Duluth and has since operated a photograph gallery in this place.

IVER WISTED, a native of Norway, came to America in 1866, and after a residence of a few years in St. Paul, came to this place in 1869. Until 1877, he was employed at the carpenter trade, but has since conducted business on his own account, employing as many as twelve men.

ERNST WIELAND was born in Germany, and came to America in 1849. He resided in Ohio, engaged in a tannery for about nine years, then came to Superior City a short time, and thence about fifty miles above Duluth, engaged in the lumber business. In 1878, he came to Duluth, opened his present tannery, which is 32x104 feet, and three stories high, and in which he employs fifteen men. During the year 1880, he handled from 3,000 to 4,000 hides, doing a business of about \$30,000.

C. E. WENTWORTH was born in Rome, Oneida county, New York, and came to Duluth in 1869, in the employ of Jay Cooke, for the purpose of procuring laborers for the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company. In 1870, he went to Oneota, engaged in the mercantile business and remained three years, thence to Iowa in the same business until 1880, when he removed to St. Paul, and in the spring of 1881, returned to Duluth. Has since been proprietor of the Tropical Saloon.

J. D. and F. D. WALSH are natives of Canada, but came to the United States when young and learned the trade of boiler maker in Chicago, where they were employed until the fall of 1880. Then came to Duluth and started an establishment of their own, under the name of the American Steam Boiler Works.



THE GEOLOGY  
OF THE  
UPPER MISSISSIPPI AND SAINT LOUIS VALLEYS.

—BY—

PROF. N. H. WINCHELL.

CHAPTER CLIX.

If any part of the State were to be designated, above all others, as typical and characteristic of the topography and other surface features that resulted from the glacial epoch, it would be necessary to select this portion. It is limited on the west and northwest, and is crossed at several places, and in different directions, by ridges of morainic accumulations that rise several hundred feet above the general level. It is buried everywhere under a burden of drift that is probably 200 feet thick, in average. It is thickly strewn with lakes which not only bear on their surfaces the numerous species of migratory water-fowl of the northwest, but reflect the shadows of dense overhanging forests. It is swampy. It is sandy, and in some places it is stony. Its waters run in rapid, gurgling, clear brooks down its steep declines, or wander in sluggish movement through the tortuous ways of dismal swamps. Its animal life is varied, and its vegetation is rank. It seldom reveals by exposure, *in situ*, the rocky stratum underlying, and it is only by broad generalizations that the direction of its rock terranes can be expressed.

Nevertheless, although it is, more than the rest of Minnesota, a *terra incognita* of civilization, it is still the mysterious "Upper Nile" of southern Minnesota, and annually bears in its great arteries of flow and flood the treasures of its upper country to the plains below.

GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY.

That which shuts in the upper Mississippi region, and the upper St. Louis, with their thousands of lakes, like the rim of a basin, is a line

of glacial moraine which seems to run continuously in a grand sweep, covering a belt from three to thirty miles in width, from the headwaters of the Crow river in Kandiyohi and Pope counties northward through Otter Tail and Becker counties, into the White Earth Indian Reservation, northward past Rice lake and Bemidji lake, including the "Julian Sources" of the Mississippi, discovered and described by Beltrami, and eastward to the southern sources of the Big Fork river; and finally, uniting with the Mesabi Heights ridge, passes out of Minnesota into Ontario, or sinks away near Gnuflint Lake. The line of high land, which at once forms the divide and the source of numerous streams that flow from it, consists of coarse drift materials essentially, but more stony toward the north, and has been known and named in several places where it exhibits an unusual development. The Leaf Hills, the Mesabi Heights, Dividing Ridge, Blue Hills, Langhei Hills, and Blue Mounds are some of the names by which it is known at different localities. Whatever is south or east of this belt is strikingly different from the country to the north and west of it. On the south and east of this belt of rolling and rough land is found the greatest effect of surface water. Here is modified drift. Here is sandy plain and gravelly terrace. Here are swamps and ancient water levels, and multitudes of deep lakes of clear water. Here are eroded bluffs and rocky gorges. Here we find great diversity. On the other side is monotony—a plain extends without interruption along the west side of Minnesota, outside this hilly chain, from the Lake of the Woods to Spirit lake, on the Iowa State line. It is timbered in the northeast; it is prairie in the





south. Here are no lakes, or very few, and they are shallow. Here we see no extensive sandy plains, no deep rocky gorges, no rock exposure.\* One universal mantle of till covers it, and it is as level as the ocean.

We said that to the south and east of this hilly boundary is seen the greatest effect of surface drainage. It has been also the scene of moving and of contending glacier currents, but at an earlier date. Medial moraines, or cross-ridges, are seen intersecting the country, showing where the line of battle was fiercest or longest maintained. One flow moved from the northwest, and one moved from the northeast. Where they met they left the traces of their conflict in the form of boulders and heaped-up clay. Each contributed its peculiar product to the mass. Limestone and blue clay came from the northwest. Green stones, sandstone, and red clay from the northeast. Sometimes the northwestern current fell first and was buried by the other, sometimes the northeastern, and sometimes the contest was evenly maintained, as shown by the complete mingling of their remains in the same tomb. These medial moraines may be seen in Todd, Morrison, Crow Wing, and Cass counties, and probably at many points not yet ascertained. The whole country between Mille Lacs and Leech Lake, and south and west from Leech lake is broken and even hilly, with drift accumulations. South of the Mesabi Range, in Itasca and St. Louis counties, are other tracts of hilly land, characterized by frequent lakes, which probably were produced by the same cause.

Much of the area included in this basin is flat. These flat tracts, while deeply underlain by till, at the surface may be either swampy, with growth of cedar or tamarac, or sandy and dry, with Bank's pine. Such swamps are found in Aitkin county, northwest of Sandy lake, along both sides of the Willow and Little Willow rivers, where great numbers of cedar telegraph poles have been cut, and in Carlton county, between Sandy lake and Thomson. Much of the country is swampy between Pokegama Falls and Leech lake, as well as along much of the course of the St. Louis and its tributaries. There are also extensive swamps in southern Carlton and in Pine counties. The sandy plains, in which the most abundant tree is Bank's pine, (often styled Jack pine) are found further south. North of the Leaf river, and of the Wing

river, after they unite, extending from Shell lake, in Becker county, to the Mississippi river, is an extensive tract of this kind. After crossing the Mississippi this becomes narrow, and is deflected southward along the east side of the river into Crow Wing and Morrison counties. It then turns east, widening, and finally uniting with a similar tract that comes from Wisconsin across the upper waters of the St. Croix river. On the west side of the Mississippi, in Becker and Cass counties, this belt is from twenty-five to thirty miles wide; where it crosses the Mississippi it is about fifteen miles wide, and Brainerd is near the center. South of the Mesabi range, in St. Louis county, north of the Big White Face river, is another belt of similar flat and sandy country, on which the Bank's pine is the chief tree.

#### TIMBER.

This country is almost wholly covered with forest. There is a little prairie included in it in Kandiyohi, Stearns and Todd counties, and small patches elsewhere, but with these exceptions the Upper Mississippi valley including the area drained by its tributaries, and the region drained by the St. Louis river, were covered, when first visited by the European, with a forest that stretched almost unbroken from the northern boundary nearly to the Iowa line in the neighborhood of Winnebago City—tapering to a wedge-shaped extremity toward the south, in ascending the Blue Earth valley. This was a varied forest—coniferous largely in the north, and deciduous toward the south, and embraced a great variety of species. Among the conifers are three species of pine, though the lumbermen speak also of distinctions by which they are led to believe that several other species are found. The only three pines are *Pinus strobus*, *P. resinosa*, and *P. Banksiana*. Other conifers are also abundant, such as White cedar, *Thuja occidentalis*, Balsam fir, *Abies balsamea*, White spruce, *Abies alba*, and Tamarac, *Larix Americana*. The hemlock has been reported, but *does not exist in nature, in Minnesota*. Oak is represented by several species, which are distributed from north to south throughout nearly all this region. They occur in rank of abundance about in the following order, though toward the north the red and the black oaks disappear before the bur oak does, and the white oak is found most frequent and largest along rich river bottoms, sometimes to the exclusion of other species. Black oak, *Quercus tinctoria* (of Bartram), Bur oak, *Q. macrocarpa*, White oak, *Q. alba*, and

\*Except in the treasure valley of the Minnesota.



Red oak, *Q. rubra*. The hickory is represented by one species, *Carya amara*, known as bitter-nut or swamp hickory. Of this, thousands of young saplings are cut annually for hoops for Minnesota flour. The box-elder, *Negundo aceroides*, is distributed from Fond du Lac southward and westward. The sugar maple, *Acer saccharinum*, is found throughout, but fails in the extreme northeast at a few miles back from Lake Superior—the most northern and eastern point known being in the Indian Reservation at Grand Portage. The American Elm, *Ulmus Americana*, is found generally throughout the Mississippi valley, and in the St. Louis valley, but fails in the extreme north. The Slippery Elm, *Ulmus fulva*, is about coextensive with the last, but is a much rarer tree. Bass, *Tilia Americana*, and soft maple, *Acer dasycarpum*, constitute in many places, a large proportion of the native forest. Along the valleys, particularly, these trees reach their stateliest dimensions, and overhang the streams so as to interlock from side to side. Two kinds of Birch make large trees in the heavy timber, especially in the northern part of the region, viz., *Betula papyracea* and *lutea*. The former is the paper, or canoe birch, and the latter is the yellow, or gray birch. The little white tree which grows common on sterile soils, mingling with the aspen in northern Minnesota, and extending southward along the rocky bluffs of the Mississippi, is probably another species, *Betula alba*, var. *populifolia*. Of the Poplars, three species are common, viz., *Populus tremuloides*, or Trembling Aspen, which occupies the picket lines of the forest belt, exposed to the fires of the prairie, and the frosts and rocky soils of the north, the Cottonwood, *P. monilifera*, making a large tree along the rivers, and *P. canadensis*, or Balm of Gilead, which is a northern species less hardy than the *tremuloides*. Another species of Poplar, which makes a large tree also occurs, but cannot be ranked as common. It is *P. grandidentata*. White and black ash, *Fraxinus Americana*, and *sambucifolia*, are also important trees. The butternut *Juglans cinerea*, does not make a large tree, but is common.

There are a number of other smaller trees, such as Ironwood, Water-beech, Thorn apple, Dogwood, Crab-apple, and an occasional tree of Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*, but the foregoing constitute the great bulk of the native forest. The following are conspicuous by their absence:—Hemlock, *Abies Canadensis*, and Beech, *Fagus ferruginea*.

#### SOIL.

This large region of course presents a great diversity of soil and agricultural capability. If any generalization at all were to be stated, it would be true to say that it has a class of soils strongly ferruginous and arenaceous, and comparatively wanting in alkaline and calcareous elements. The soils are produced by local modifications of the subsoils. In some places they are aluminous, as along the river valleys, and on the bottom lands, and along the western border of the region where the unmodified till is found at the surface. Where rank vegetation has grown and decayed, or fires have consumed it, as on the prairies, for many successive years, the soil is blackened by carbon. Where surface drainage was gentle over large tracts, carrying forward and distributing the sand of the washed till at the time of the glacial epoch, the surface soil is very light, and has been unable to cover the country with anything but the hardiest species of trees. This is seen in the sandy plains characterized by the Bank's pine. Where the country is broken with morainic hills and valleys, as in the hilly country about Itasca lake and south of Leech lake, or in the hills of the Mesabie range, or northeast of Pemi-dji lake, the soil is stony on the tops and sides of the hills, but deep, stoneless and rich in the basin-shaped depressions. Where standing water, since the drift period, or at its close, has distributed a fine sediment over the surface, as in the tract between Pokegama Falls and Winnibigoshish and Leech lakes, the country has a tough, clayey soil. Where the drainage is from the west, the surface soils, as well as the subsoils, will partake of the more alkaline and calcareous nature of the drift that came from the northwest. In general, on the east of the Mississippi river, and throughout the valley of the St. Louis the soils and subsoils are red and more sandy than on the west.

#### HYDROLOGY.

The hydrology of the region is one of its chief natural features. It embraces the sources of the Mississippi, of the St. Lawrence and of the Nelson rivers, which find the ocean level by taking diverse directions across the continent, south, east and north. Yet it is not in this region that occurs the highest land of the continent, nor of the State. From north-central Minnesota the descent to Lake Superior or to Lake Pepin is gentle, and the streams that enter Lake Winnipeg are sluggish so far as they are in Minnesota. The fall





from Lake Itasca to Lake Superior is 965.6 feet, and to Minneapolis is 745 feet. The descent of the St. Louis river is generally gentle until it reaches the Dalles at Thomson, when it plunges rapidly down the rocky rim of Lake Superior, about six hundred feet in six or seven miles. The morainic character of the country generally is the cause of thousands of lakes. The sandy nature of the drift makes it like a sponge, to take up eagerly and give out slowly the waters that descend upon it. These circumstances unite with the generally level contour to retain the waters and to sustain the streams with full volume late into the summer season.

The following list of elevations above the ocean will convey a general idea of the evenness of the grand contour. There are no great and sudden elevations caused by rocky upheavals. Such are found further northeast, but beyond the limit of the St. Louis Valley. The great depression of the Lake Superior basin below the rock-vein that encloses it is the only exception to this statement. This causes all the streams that enter it from the west to plunge down the declivity over the rocky strata; but before reaching the brink they are gentle and navigable.

	Above the Ocean.
Lake Superior.....	609.4 feet
Minneapolis.....	830. "
Brainerd.....	1,214. "
Mille Laes.....	1,266. "
Sandy Lake.....	1,255. "
Thomson.....	1,036. "
Northern Pacific Junction.....	1,090. "
Fond du Lac.....	614. "
Wadena.....	1,358. "
Pokegama Falls (head of falls).....	1,266.71 "
Knife Falls.....	984. "
Lake Pemidji.....	1,456. "
Leech Lake.....	1,292.78 "
Cass Lake.....	1,300.08 "
Itasca Lake.....	1,575. "
Leaf Hills (in Otter Tail county).....	1,750. "
Winnibegoshish Lake.....	1,290.04 "
Mouth of Leech Lake river.....	1,279.23 "
Saganaga Lake.....	1,525.4 "
Gundlitch Lake.....	1,661. "
North Lake.....	1,666. "
Vermillion Lake.....	1,518. "
Squagenaw Lake (about).....	1,400. "
Divide between East and West Savauna rivers.....	1,334. "
Divide between Itasca Lake and Red River of the North.....	1,680. "

## WATER-POWERS.

The descent of the streams being so gradual, and the rocky floor being so rarely encountered

by them, the natural water-powers for running machinery are not abundant in the interior of this tract. But the water-power that is afforded by the descent of the St. Louis, and by all the other streams that enter Lake Superior, over the rock border of that lake, is very great. The water in all cases can be used several times over before the lower land is reached. The Mississippi is occasionally rapid, with the production of water-power between Lake Itasca and Lake Pamerjigermug. The first occurs about seven miles below Lake Itasca, where a fall of twelve feet is found in as many rods, the water passing over boulders. Below this is a series of rapids, extending nearly half a mile, the obstruction being large boulders of granite. Below Lake Pamerjigermug (or Pemidji) are the Metoswa Rapids, so named by Schoolcraft, where a number of fine water privileges are available for lumbering or flouring.

There is no further break in the gradual descent of the river till reaching Pokegama Falls, where, with rocky walls and floor, the river descends about fourteen feet in a few yards, though from the upper to the lower landing of the portage, including the rapids above and below the fall, the descent is about thirty feet. The fourteen feet fall furnishes 3,936 horse-power at high water stage. Below Pokegama Falls, three or four miles, are the Grand Rapids, the head of steamboat navigation above Aitkin. Boats can readily run above Pokegama Falls, to several miles above Lake Winnibegoshish, and to Leech lake. At the Grand Rapids the channel is obstructed by boulders, falling five feet in the distance of 1,750 feet. In time of mean high water the volume of the Mississippi at the Grand Rapids is 2,525 feet per second, giving 1,253 horse-power. About two miles below the Sandy Lake river the Mississippi shows a slight rapid, where it breaks over large boulders, but it is hardly worthy of being enumerated as an available water-power. At two miles below the mouth of the Willow river, in a right line, are the rapids known as the Big Eddy. Here, with a fall of 2.67 feet, the power available by dam is 1,148 horse-power, at mean high water. At the Island Rapids the slope is 3,000 feet long, and at the rate of 4.62 feet per mile for the first 800 feet, in which are 301 horse-power. At the French Rapids, a few miles above Brainerd, are 670 horse-power in high water stage. At Olmstead's Bar the horse-power is about 9,000, at high water



stage; at Prairie Rapids about 6,000; at Little Falls, 18,371; at Pike Rapids about 12,000; at Sank Rapids, 31,966, at mean high water. Between the St. Cloud and Augusta Mills, at mean high water, it is 49,627; at St. Anthony Falls, (perpendicular fall of sixteen feet before improvements) 22,181 average for the year round; at St. Anthony Falls—whole available power from Nicollet island to one-half mile below the falls, (fall of  $79\frac{1}{2}$  feet) 110,905, average for the year round.

Of course there are available water-powers on all the tributaries of the upper Mississippi, some of which have been improved.

It is impossible to state the water-power about Lake Superior, but it is immense, and probably will never be wholly utilized. Between Knife Falls on the St. Louis river, and Fond du Lac, the waters of the St. Louis descend in rapids, cascades and falls, a distance of over five hundred feet, plunging from rock to rock, the interval over which this fall is distributed being about fifteen miles.

This is found somewhat concentrated at convenient points with intervals of a mile or two between them. At Knife Falls the stream is divided by islands, both at the falls and above, and the perpendicular descent of the water is about nine feet. A rapid extends for one-quarter mile further, having a descent of about twenty feet more. Below this also one-half mile the water is rapid, with a broken cascade over boulders, the descent being about three feet. A quarter of a mile further down is a fall of seventeen feet in three hundred feet. There is a division of the river here of four channels by the strike of five different persistent beds of the formation, the water running in the strike of the intervening beds, the hard beds forming islands in the fall. The width of the river at the brink is about 230 feet. A mile below this is another important water-power, situated at Fortress Island, which rises fifty-five feet above the water, the fall being about eight feet, over large boulders, principally on the left of the island. Another small rapid is near the center of section 19, town 49, range 16. Below the Floodwood Islands are small rapid places, one descent of two feet, and another of three feet on south-west quarter section 30, over boulders lying on outcropping slate. Near the middle of section 31 the river descends in a rapid six or eight feet. No other noteworthy rapids occur till at the north-east corner of the large island which is about one-half mile above the railroad bridge. Here the water

passes over the rock ranges diagonally, producing a fall of about ten feet in twenty rods, the most of it being on the lower ten rods. As the river crosses the strike it is narrowed suddenly to about thirty feet in low water. Below this large island is a fall of ten feet, just above the railroad; then continuous rapids and cascades to the mouth of Otter creek, the further descent being twenty-five feet. Here the river is a rushing torrent, in a rough, narrow gorge, sometimes split by islands, and offers a very attractive view to all who cross it on the cars from Northern Pacific Junction to Thomson. Below Otter creek, within the first mile, is a descent of thirty feet. The strike of the rock goes directly across the river, causing it in several places to be contracted suddenly to twenty or twenty-five feet in width. Through these narrow passages the river rushes with some fall and a swift current. There is then a uniformity in the stream for a distance of nearly a mile, though an actual and steady fall amounting in the aggregate to seventy feet. Near the mouth of a little creek, coming in from the north, one of the harder beds of the formation protrudes above the rest, passing diagonally across the stream, and the water falls again six feet. Then the river is steady again in its descent for about one-half mile, when an island appears in the channel, where by the disposition of the slate ranges, a very curious and complicated series of currents and counter-currents and cascades are produced, with a descent in the aggregate amounting to twenty-five feet. The river then descends rapidly, but rather uniformly, among the rocks for a short distance, the fall being about twenty-five feet. The rocks then rise like dykes in the midst of the river, nearly parallel with its course, forming knobs and rough islands sometimes eighteen or twenty feet high, confining the water within narrow troughs which run somewhat obliquely across its course. Through these rocks the descent, from the mouth of a little creek coming in from the north to the head of the sixth island, (counting from the foot of the Dalles), amounts to sixty-five feet, one of the principal chutes being near the head of Island No. 6. Below this island is one of the principal water-powers. The river, in a short space near Bridge No. 5, is divided into various channels by six islands. Three of these islands are above the fall and three are below, but there is also a considerable fall all the way to near the head of the sixth island. Alto-





gether this part of the descent amounts to fifty-five feet. There is still some rapid in the river below all these islands, but in general the character of the valley changes at once, the Huronian slates and quartzites giving place to the shales and sandstones of the Potsdam formation. Above Knife Falls, rapids begin one-half mile beyond Pine Island, and continue five or six miles, making what is known as the Grand Rapids. The water then is comparatively quiet to the mouth of the Cloquet. But just below its mouth is a large rapid. The St. Louis, while generally navigable for canoes above this place, is occasionally rapid, but furnishes no water-power that can be compared to the valuable sites in the Dalles. Still further up on the Embarras, where it expands into small lakes, it passes by sudden chutes from one lake to the other, falling over large boulders of granite. These rapid places are favorable for the construction of water-mills for lumber, since the lakes furnish excellent opportunities for booming the logs. There is no rock-exposure along the St. Louis valley from the islands near Knife Falls to the point where the Embarras pours through the Mesabi.

#### GEOLOGIC FORMATIONS.

The rocky formations which underlie the region of the Upper Mississippi and of the St. Louis valleys, not including the drift, may be considered in descending order, as follows. It is necessary to understand that while we descend in the geological scale of the strata, we necessarily ascend the Mississippi. The oldest rocks, which elsewhere underlie all the others, rise highest above the ocean when laid bare. They make the oldest water-divides, and the nucleus of the dry land of the continent:

1. Trenton limestone.
2. St. Peter sandstone.
3. Potsdam formation, (the Cupriferous series of L. Superior.)
4. Huronian.
5. Laurentian.

1. *The Trenton* formation extends but little above the Falls of St. Anthony. It is seen as far north as Shingle creek on the west side of the river, and on the east side is only known a short distance north of the Hennepin county line. It is this rock that forms the brink of the Falls of St. Anthony, and has been used for building at Minneapolis and St. Paul.

2. *The St. Peter* sandstone which underlies, probably extends much further north. It doubtless contributes much toward the sandiness of the soils of Anoka, Isanti, and Sherburne counties. It is probably this rock which is wrought by the railroad company at Hinckley, and overlies unconformably the rocks of the lower formations.

3. The next rock known in ascending the Mississippi is the granite at St. Cloud, but the next in the geological scale is the *red sandrock* wrought at Fond du Lac, on the St. Louis. The same which, with some metamorphosis, is in outcrop at Pokegama Falls, and at Prairie river Falls. This sandrock is an extensive formation. It consists very largely of red shales, as may be seen in the banks of the St. Louis, above the sandstone quarries of Fond du Lac. It was deposited during a period of volcanic and igneous disturbance. It is upheaved and broken. It is interbedded with igneous rock. It is metamorphosed in a great many ways, and in different degrees, making pseudo-amygdaloids. Of itself, it is perhaps 600 or 800 feet thick, but with the increase due to the igneous disturbances, and to the igneous beds themselves, it amounts to several thousand feet. The igneous rock came from deep sources, penetrating the underlying Huronian also. Dykes of it can be seen cutting the Huronian at Thomson, and at many places between Thomson and Knife Falls. They generally run nearly north and south. The igneous rock seems to have been piled up in mountain-like ranges, and also to have flowed out over the bottom of the ocean in vast sheets. The rock of the Rico Point range, at Duluth, is the best illustration of the mountain mass within this district, and the spreading sheets, interbedded between strata of sedimentary rock, (somewhat metamorphosed), can be seen a few miles east of Duluth, along the lake shore. Nearly all the rocks at Duluth belong to this formation in its various conditions, but principally to the igneous portion of it. These beds present the geologist with many very interesting, and perplexing questions of geology and mineralogy. This is the great copper-bearing formation. It extends about the shores of Lake Superior. It affords metallic copper. It is also an iron bearing formation. Its iron is characterized by being magnetic, and by containing titanium. It may have been derived from the reduction of the peroxides of iron from the Potsdam shales, in the process of igneous upheaval and change. This is supposable



from the fact that the iron ores of this formation are, so far as known, in close contiguity with the points of contact between the igneous and the sedimentary beds, and by the additional fact that the igneous rock is in many places almost free from iron. Iron ore of this kind is found at Prairie river Falls, and in Herman, St. Louis county. At Duluth, also, this rock is so ferriferous in some places, as to attract attention as an iron ore.

The *Huronian* plays a very conspicuous part in the geology of the Upper Mississippi and the St. Louis valleys. The typical manner of outcrop, as well as material composition of this formation, is to be seen at Thomson, and from there up the St. Louis to Knife Falls, and down the valley to the foot of the Dalles. It there appears as a slaty and argillaceous rock, interbedded with gray quartzites, cut by igneous dykes and tilted out of position so as to dip generally to the southeast at an angle of  $30^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$ . Scattered centricular ridges rise very sharply above the ground surface, some of them being 35 or 40 feet high. They are intersected by jointage planes and by slaty cleavage, the former running in two or three directions and cutting the mass into rhomboidal blocks, and the latter standing nearly vertical and running about east and west. Sometimes the beds contain eubie iron pyrites and sometimes local deposits of white quartz coincident with the cleavage, or with the bedding, and sometimes deposits of graphites. But in general the whole has a uniform and yet a very rough aspect. It is generally gray, varying to darker shades—almost black. The quartzites are light-colored; the slates are darker. The dykes of igneous rock that cut the formation weather away faster than the beds of the formation itself, and hence they occupy the lower transverse valleys. They are inconspicuous except as they form lines of darker, or brownish-rusty, rotting, rock, sometimes but a foot or two in width and sometimes sixty feet wide, running nearly north and south. The St. Louis lies in the line of a huge, eroded igneous dyke where it runs under the railroad bridge between Thomson and the Northern Pacific Junction. It can be traced both north and south from that place, running through the country in an unvarying direction. Another dyke parallel to this passes a few rods east of Miller's Mill at Thomson. Several can be seen cutting the formation between the river and the Northern Pacific Junction. The formation seems to give place to

the igneous rock of the Rice Point hills a short distance above Knife Falls. An isolated knoll of the same formation rises among the igneous rock at Duluth. It is found in outcrop up Mission creek 4 or 5 miles. It extends southward without much variation as far as Moose lake and station. It runs under the drift but reappears at numerous points on the Mississippi, though it has here a different lithology. It is changed to alternating mica-schists and quartzites, with nodules and larger areas of granite. The whole region about Little Falls, where this rock outcrops in Morrison county, whether as granite, as at Granite City and northwest from Little Falls, or as a mica-schist, as at the rapids at Little Falls and Pike Rapids, is underlain by the Huronian. At Pike Rapids the schist is highly staurolitic, the little angular crystals standing out conspicuously on all weathered surfaces, and often found among the gravel in perfect and frequently twinned forms. The granites at Watab, Sauk Rapids and St. Cloud, and generally in Stearns county, as well as further west, near Motley, and in Todd county, belong to the same formation. The granites result from a further metamorphism of sedimentary beds. Mica-schists and tale schists are produced first. The complete fusion and crystallization of the sedimentary beds of the Huronian resulted in granites and syenites. The fact that the East St. Cloud granite is a result of metamorphism from a conglomerate is evident still, in the rounded forms of pebbles still preserved, which, on being subjected to the same forces, did not produce granite, but a chloritic or hornblende dark mass. These evidences are still more distinct in this formation in the northern part of the State, near the boundary line. These granites are also associated with granites of a red color, probably derived from the overlying Potsdam formation, and are cut by dykes of igneous rock in the same manner as the slates and quartzites at Thompson.

5. The *Laurentian* formation, if any such there be in Minnesota, seems to occur in the vicinity of Saganaga lake, and to extend into the region of the upper St. Louis, particularly on its branch known as the Embarras, where it crosses the Mesabi range; but this is not yet well established. As a formation it consists very largely of light colored granites, and whether they graduate into the Huronian or not, is not settled, but they seem to.

In the foregoing sketch no mention is made of the Cretaceous. It is found in Stearns, Wright





and Morrison counties, and it probably lies under the drift-sheet in patches in much of the Upper Mississippi region. This formation is that which has excited false hopes of coal in numerous instances in Minnesota. One of these cases occurred in Wright county, and one in Stearns.

#### ECONOMIC RESOURCES.

As to the economical resources derivable from the rocks of the region, they may be summed up briefly as follows:

From the *Drift*, clays for brick, both red and cream colored, or for tiles, drains or earthen ware.

From the *Trenton*, quicklime and building stone.

From the *St. Peter*, silica-sand for glass making.

From the *Potsdam*, metallic-copper, iron-ore, building stone, graphite, and feldspar for china ware.

From the *Huronian*, ores of copper, iron and

silver; graphite and granites and roofing slate.

From the *Laurentian*, Granites for building and for monuments.

From the *Cutaceous*, lignites and clays for pottery.

In the enumeration of resources no mention is made of agricultural resources, dependent on soil and climate, nor of the native forests with which the region is supplied. The agricultural capabilities have been underestimated. The region has nothing to render it less productive than much of New York, Michigan and Wisconsin, which are settled and cultivated as farming lands. Enough has already been raised to show this. Isolated farming is carried on in the most distant parts of the region, while throughout most of the upper Mississippi Valley are found fine farms are in prosperous activity.



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